FBIS DAILY REPORT

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USSR, HUNGARY, CSSR HOLD MANEUVERS IN CSSR

Preparations for Maneuvers

LD032314 Prague Television Service in Czech and Slovak 1830 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Over the last few days, our military training grounds have echoed to the drone of tank engines, infantry combat vehicles, and self-propelled artillery. Anyone who has experienced at first hand how difficult it is to drive through deep mud and freshly-fallen snow will perhaps begin to appreciate how skilled the military drivers of heavy combat vehicles must be to cope with snow-covered mountain slopes. Some of the designated Czechoslovak units participating in the forthcoming joint maneuvers of the Czechoslovak People's Army, the Soviet Army, and the Hungarian People's Army have already taken up their positions in the training grounds.

As previously announced, these maneuvers will take place on our territory 6-12 February, with a view to practising coordination between commanders and units of the participating armies in winter conditions. In this preparatory period, the pilots are also very busy. Close collaboration between the Air Force and the ground forces is one of the characteristic traits of current military operations for maintaining and stepping up the tempo, and for pressing home the advantage in the main line of battle. This is why practising the rapid deployment of tactical helicopter troop landings on maneuver, when every second is crucial, is one of the intensive activities going on at the site of the forthcoming exercises. Czechoslovak pilots of the MI-24 combat helicopters are paying great attention during this preparatory period to the principal elements of air support for ground forces. This includes, for example, practising the engagement of targets representing enemy armored vehicles and tanks. The outstanding characteristics of these combat helicopters, which are becoming an indispensible means of present-day combat, are being put to good use on this occasion in support of Czechoslovak, Soviet, and Hungarian ground force units. Flying low over the terrain at a speed of 300 kilometres an hour, in direct contact with tank crews and recoilless rifles, these helicopters are helping to bring about a solution of the tactical situation.

This is what we saw at one of the designated areas during part of the responsible preparation of our troops for fulfillment of the tasks to test their combat-readiness during the joint winter maneuvers.

Report on Hungarian Forces

LD042345 Prague Television Service in Czech and Slovak 1830 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Recorded portions in Hungarian fading into Czech translation]

[Text] Beginning today and throughout the next week we shall carry reports on the joint exercises of Czechoslovak, Soviet, and Hungarian troops. In our report today we pay a visit to members of the Hungarian People's Army:

[Unidentified correspondent] Long before we caught sight of a gate leading to one of the accommodation areas, situated in the area where the coming exercises will be held, we could hear the sound of tank engines. The tanks of a unit belonging to the Hungarian People's Army were arriving in the area accommodating military equipment. The Hungarian troops themselves are accomodated in a camp comprised of housing units made of logs and it was at the assembly area that we caught the tank company answering the drill call. The task of the day corresponded to the situation of the last hours before the combat exercise actions will start. We talked about this with one of the commanders:

[Begin recording] Assigned units of our Army have taken up their positions in the designated areas in accordance with the plan. Our Czechoslovak comrades have welcomed us cordially and have made the necessary provisions for us. The units of the Soviet and Czechoslovak troops are now making intensive preparations in order to fulfill the tasks of the exercises as well as possible. [end recording]

Discussions about coordination are taking place at various levels. Here at the rear the initial plan is to ensure all necessary care for members of the Hungarian People's Army, who have finished a long and tiring journey. The mood, however, is excellent.

[Begin recording] After our journey by rail we were pleasantly surprised by the nice, warm accomodations that awaited us. The food, too, is excellent and the weather is also in our favor. We are making preparations to discharge the tasks ahead of us. Our people at home can remain calm. We are well and everything is in order. [end recording]

The fact that a Hungarian field bakery unit was the first to report readiness has also contributed to good spirit. Hungarian soldiers now have their own bread to which they are accumstomed.

Report on Soviet Group

LD060011 Prague Television Service in Czech and Slovak 1830 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] We will look at the training ground of the coming joint winter exercises of our own, Soviet, and Hungarian soldiers.

[Unidentified reporter] We caught up with the Soviet tank crew on the road before the training battles began. The commander once again checked on the knowledge of conditions of fighting, and then the sounds of embarking were heard. [sounds of orders being given and running feet]

This year's winter exercises of the units of the three armies of the Warsaw Pact is the first important test of our readiness in the new situation created by the deployment of American first-strike nuclear weapons in Western Europe.

[Voice speaking in Russian heard in background with translation superimposed] (?What) does thie new situation mean for you? In our battalion we are well aware of the importance of the tasks that face us. As an answer to the deployment of American missiles in Western Europe, we are increasing the combat readiness of all forms of arms. In the battle of today, it is the tank crews who have an important role. The success of the battle depends on their skill. (?Today) they are on the foremost frontier of socialism with the Czechoslovak soldiers, and we continue to strengthen the friendship and cooperation of the Warsaw Pact Armies for its defense.

The combat vehicles of the infantry have completed a fast manuever with firing during their preparation, regardless of the snow, mud, and obstacles of the terrain. [noise of vehicles]

The members of the Central Group of Soviet Forces were carrying out final preparations in the knowledge that even though they will only be shooting with practice ammunition, the overall conditions of the exercise will be close to the characteristics of actual battle. [gunfire noise]

RUDE PRAVO on Unity, Exercises

LD061002 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0800 GMT 6 Feb 84

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Today's RUDE PRAVO editorial stresses the importance of the unity of the Warsaw Pact states both in the building and in the defense of socialism. It recalls their persistent efforts to achieve disarmament and more than 100 specific proposals and initiatives in the past few years aimed at averting nuclear war and consolidating peace. Throughout the entire period of the Warsaw Pact's existence since 1955, the editorial continues, all the Warsaw Pact's activity has been aimed at combining the effort of its members and other countries in the struggle for peace and security both in Europe and in the world. All steps taken by the Warsaw Pact to promote disarmament have won undoubted international sympathies. Although only a few of the initiatives and proposals have so far been successfully carried through and brought to a conclusion in the form of international treaties, the effort to achieve disarmament must not diminish and indeed is not diminishing. At present there is no doubt that there is a military-strategic balance between the Warsaw Pact and NATO that objectively precludes the imperialist circles from going over to an open confrontation with socialism, for it is the aim of the present ruling circles of the United States and other countries of NATO to seek ways of upsetting this balance, achieving military-strategic superiority and thereby conditions to enable them to launch a surprise strike against the countries of the socialist community. It is this design that primarily characterizes the deployment of the new U.S. nuclear missile systems in Western Europe. Those who inspired this deployment have thus seriously jeopardized security both in Europe and in the world and substantially altered international relations.

As is known, it became necessary for us also to take appropriate measures, whose purpose is to set against the new offensive U.S. weapons equally effective missile defense systems, that will place the imperialist aggressor both on his forward bases in West Europe and at home on the other side of the Atlantic in the same situation as that in which he wants to place the countries of the socialist community. In any case, the defense of the socialist countries comprises an entire complex of modern equipment and in particular the moral and combat readiness of the Warsaw Pact Armed Forces.

The RUDE PRAVO editorial adds that an important factor of the combat and political readiness of our Armed Forces is their direct participation in the collective efforts of the armed forces of the socialist countries to enhance the defense capabilities of the socialist community and to intensify coordination in combat conditions among the fraternal armed forces. Such efforts must not be weakened for a single minute; they must not be diminished.

A part of this effort is the recently announced planned joint exercises of units of the Czechoslovak People's Army, the Soviet Army, and the Hungarian People's Army on the territory of our republic. The aim is to exercise coordination among commanders and units of the allied armies in winter conditions.

As the RUDE PRAVO editorial stresses in conclusion, the joint exercises will contribute to a perfecting of mutual coordination among troops and staffs in complicated combat conditions, and reciprocal meetings among soldiers and commanders of the three armed forces will further deepen internationalist relations, unity, and friendship.

GDR, PPR CDE ENVOYS ON NUCLEAR-FREE EUROPE

Missile Deployment Reversible

LD031556 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1429 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Stockholm, 3 Feb (ADN) -- Speaking at the plenary session of the 35 states attending the Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe [CDE], Ambassador Dr Buehring said that the creation of nuclear-free zones in various regions in Europe would be a substantial contribution to the reduction of the danger of a nuclear war and to the strengthening of trust between states. The GDR representative stressed that initiatives for the creation of such zones, from the North Pole to the southernmost edge of the continent [as received] deserve to be considered at the Stockholm conference. This is fully in line with the mandate and the central object of the negotiations conducted in Stockholm. This is all the more urgent, as the NATO states continue to categorically reject a renunciation of the first use of nuclear weapons.

Ambassador Buehring stressed that the creation of such zones would give those states having no nuclear weapons the opportunity to make a direct contribution to the limitation of nuclear arms and disarmament. In this connection, he reminded the conference of the GDR's readiness to make all its territory available for such a zone. By making this proposal, the GDR is at the same time saying that if the NATO states return to the situation prior to the deployment of American medium-range missiles, then the inevitable countermeasures which had been made could be reversed. The GDR's aim remains to do all it can to totally free Europe from nuclear weapons.

Differences in Approach

LD041407 Warsaw PAP in English 1112 GMT 4 Feb 84

[From the Press Review]

[Text] ZYCIE WARSZAWY carries a statement granted to its Stockholm correspondent by Ambassador Wlodzimierz Konarski, head of Poland's delegation to the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, the third week of which is now coming to an end.

Wlodzimierz Konarski said that "considerable differences emerged as regards the approach to the subject of negotiations. Poland, like other Warsaw Treaty countries, comes out in favour of giving top priority to issues of an essential importance for European security and the restoration of confidence. The point is, first of all, to reach agreement on non-use of nuclear weapon as the first side, on a treaty concerning non-application of force, on reduction of military budgets, on support for the idea of creating nuclear-free zones and freeing the European Continent from chemical weapons.

"The NATO countries, and the United States in particular, insist that their package of proposals of military and technological character be taken into account, whereas we are of the opinion that they can neither bring about so badly needed an improvement in the situation, nor restore confidence," Ambassador Konarski went on.

"As a matter of fact, these are proposals of a minor importance. Those countries also wish to abstract from the current international situation and the threats posed to peace in Europe, resulting, as it is widely known, from the American policies of confrontation and armaments. They re-affirm their seeking a dialogue but escape a discussion on essential issues. One should not rule out a possibility of this being an attempt to switch the debates of the conference to a 'side-track'.

"We think that we should strive to make the public opinion, which pins so much hope on the Stockholm debates, believe that this important forum of the East-West dialogue makes its way to a tangible solution to those really essential problems which will make it possible to restore the necessary level of confidence and to improve the East-West relations," the ambassador continued.

"This is the course Poland adopted both in her official statements and in the numerous unofficial contacts. It is due to the immense impact of the international situation that we shall have to wait patiently for the results of these activities. It will not be impossible to reduce the discordant stances to a common denominator, provided that the so-called goodwill declared by NATO is supported not only by words, as it has been till now, but also by actions which will make Europe turn back from the road of increasing tension to that of a dialogue, negotiations and accord," wound up Ambassador Konarski.

MISSILE PLACEMENT IN CSSR, GDR JUSTIFIED

AU031631 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 2 Feb 84 p 3

[Kveta Benesova article in the "Where Is Truth?" column: "Europe and Nuclear Arms"; uppercase passages published in boldface]

[Excerpts] IT IS NOT UNINTERESTING TO NOTE THE HYPOCRISY IN THE STATEMENTS OF CERTAIN BOURGEOIS JOURNALISTS IN THE WESTERN PART OF EUROPE AFTER CZECHOSLOVAKIA, TOGETHER WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE GDR, ANNOUNCED ITS NEW DEFENSE MEASURES. AS IS KNOWN, THESE MEASURES CONCERN THE DEPLOYMENT OF OPERATION-TACTICAL MISSILES ON THE TERRITORIES OF THE CSSR AND GDR.

THEIR DEPLOYMENT HAS A RETALIATORY NATURE: ITS ONLY PURPOSE IS TO PREVENT THE NATO STATES FROM ATTEMPTING TO DISRUPT STRATEGIC EQUILIBRIUM IN EUROPE AND THE WORLD AND TO ACQUIRE MILITARY SUPREMACY. WHAT DID THESE HYPOCRITICAL VOICES SAY? THEY CLAIMED THAT WE DECLARE OUR NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD AMERICAN MISSILES AND THAT WE OPPOSED, AND CONTINUE TO OPPOSE, THEIR DEPLOYMENT ON THE ONE HAND, WHILE ON THE OTHER DEPLOYING MISSILES OURSELVES.

What is the truth?

Let us start from Adam: Like the other allied countries united in the Warsaw Pact, our two countries are for a Europe without nuclear arms. This has been stated time and again.

We socialist countries support all the sensible and constructive proposals of other countries, including those on creating nuclear-free zones in Europe. When the Swedish Government came out with the proposal to create a 300 km wide zone (corridor) free of nuclear arms, on the line of contact between the European countries of the Warsaw Pact and of NATO, the Czechoslovak Government agreed with this proposal, and proposed expanding the zone to 500-600 km. We follow with equal sympathies a similar initiative of the Balkan countries.

There cannot be the least doubt about the sincerity of the socialist countries' efforts to avert the danger of a nuclear confrontation. Proof of our intentions and endeavors are our concrete proposals, aimed at normalizing the international situation and at achieving a turn for the better in international issues. In the same way one cannot doubt our good will to come to an agreement on the most burning issues which concern all mankind. The socialist countries have been doing, and are doing, everything to achieve an agreement; but they will never permit NATO to achieve military supremacy over the Warsaw Pact countries, because this would be the first step toward threatening our security, according to the principle "beat the weak."

In the sea of slanders with which they are covering us, our adversaries would like to conceal one basic fact: WHO WAS THE FIRST TO DEPLOY NUCLEAR ARMS IN EUROPE!

Those who are tyring to intimidate people by talking about the "Soviet threat," those who are explaining the nuclear arms race by a "Soviet military danger," must be reminded of facts. WHEN THE SOVIET UNION PLACED ITS DEFENSE MISSILES, CALLED BY THE WEST SS-4 AND SS-5 MISSILES, IN ITS WESTERN AREAS AND WHEN IT REPLACED THESE MISSILES IN 1976 BY THE MODERNIZED SS-20 MISSILES, THIS WAS A LOGICAL STEP -- A RETALIATORY STEP IN DEFENSE OF THE THREATENED SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE, INCLUDING CZECHOSLOVAKIA. That was an inevitable, an enforced step, one aimed at establishing equilibrium with the U.S. nuclear devices already deployed in Europe. And if bourgeois propaganda is striving to explain the "necessity" of installing new American nuclear missiles in Europe by refering to the SS-20 missiles, then the realtiy of the postwar years proves it to be a pharisee.

The United States and NATO have now created completely new conditions, which have logically produced the inevitability of the Warsaw Pact undertaking defense measures. Only the naive could remain inactive in view of the fact that nuclear arms are being installed near our borders, arms targeted on our own territory and on the territory of our allies.

He who wants to see, can see; he who wants to hear can hear: The Warsaw Pact countries' defense measures, specified in the accord between the USSR and CSSR Governments and in a similar document concluded between the USSR and the GDR, are the consequence of the realization of U.S. and NATO plans for achieving military-strategic supremacy. In this situation, our defense measures are an inevitable step. Historical experience has sufficiently taught us that ONLY A RENEWAL OF THE EQUILIBRIUM CAN PROVIDE THE MOST RELIABLE GUARANTEE OF OUR SECURITY, of the maintenance of peace, and of the avoidance of nuclear destruction. The possibility of an immediate retaliation to any adventurist "first strike" is an emphatic warning to a potential aggressor. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries are, nevertheless, even now not renouncing their basic orientation toward preserving and consolidating peaceful life, toward halting feverish armament, and toward easing international tension. Comrade Gustav Husak spoke about this in his New Year's speech. Czechoslovakia fully identifies itself with the Soviet Union's opinion that it is possible to revert to the situation that existed prior to the beginning of the deployment of new American intermediate-range missiles, provided that the United States also shows this willingness. In such a case, the former Soviet proposals on limiting and reducing nuclear arms as well as the USSR's unilateral commitments in this sphere would again become valid.

Europe without nuclear arms continues to be the goal of the socialist countries.

PROPOSALS FOR CULTURAL, OTHER EXCHANGES WITH SFRY

AU031958 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Lik Seiti, ambassador of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania in Belgrade, delivered a draft program on cultural cooperation between Albania and Yugoslavia for 1984-85 to the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs today. Proceeding from the intention to develop good-neighborly relations between the two countries and to further cooperation in the fields of science, education, culture, sports, and other fields, the Albanian program proposes that both sides should encourage and support the conclusion of agreements, protocols, and programs between Albanian and Yugoslav institutions in these fields. The Albanian draft envisages that these exchanges should take place with the central federal institutions, as well as with those in the republics and provinces of Yugoslavia, without exception.

The draft also proposes that the exchanges interrupted by the Yugoslav side be resumed in accordance with those agreements still in force between the cultural, scientific, educational, and other institutions in Albania on the one side, and those in Kosovo, Macedonia, and Montenegro, on the other. The Albanian draft includes a very broad program of exchanges and activities in the most varied sectors of science, culture, education, sports, the arts, literature, cinematography, radio, television, and so forth.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DELEGATION VISITS ITALY

AU031426 Tirana ATA in English 0920 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Tirana, February 3 (ATA) -- At the invitation of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Handicraft and Agriculture of Lecce, recently a delegation of the Chamber of Commerce led by the vice-chairman of the Executive Committee of Durres District People's Council, Agim Kellici, paid a visit to the region of Apulia, Italy.

During its stay, the delegation paid visits Lecce, Bari, Brindisi, Otranto, and Gallipoli, where he talks with leaders of the chambers of commerce, representatives of trade, producing, transport firms, etc., on the possibilities of the further development of the transport trade relations between the two countries. [sentence as received]

The delegation was received by the mayors of the Lecce, Otranto and Gallipoli as well as by other top authorities of the region.

CARCANI SENDS MESSAGE TO TURKISH PREMIER

AU041336 Tirana ATA in English 0920 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Tirana, February 4 (ATA) -- Today's press reports that yesterday, the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Turkey, Vahit Halefoglu, received the vice-minister of foreign affairs of the PSR of Albania, Sokrat Plaka, who is on a visit to Ankara at the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey. He handed over a message to the minister of foreign affairs of Turkey that the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the PSR of Albania, Adil Carcani, addressed to the premier of the Republic of Turkey, Turgut Ozal.

The minister of foreign affairs of Turkey thanked for the message and assured him that he will transmit it with pleasure to the premier, Turgut Ozal, who is not in Ankara now.

Attending the meeting were the vice-secretary of state for the foreign affairs of Turkey, Ercument Yavuzalp as well as the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the PSR of Albania to the Republic of Turkey Gjylani Shehu.

The meeting passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

On February 3, the vice-minister of foreign affairs of the PSR of Albania held talks with the vice-secretary of state for the foreign affairs of the Republic of Turkey Ercument Yavuzalp, during which opinions were exchanged on the further development of mutual relations between the two countries and on some problems of international political situation as well.

Attending these meetings, which were held in a friendly spirit, were officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey and the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the PSR of Albania to the Republic of Turkey Gjylani Shehu.

AWP CC DECISION ON LIBERATION CELEBRATIONS

AU051422 Tirana ATA in English 0730 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Tirana, February 5 (ATA) -- Today's newspapers carry the decision of the Central Committee of the PLA [Party of Labor of Albania] "On the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the homeland and the triumph of the people's revolution", which says among others:

This year, 40 years are completed since November 29, 1944 when the Albanian people, under the leadership of the party, with Comrade Enver Hoxha at the head, scored the most brilliant victory in their history, liberated the homeland, established the people's power and entered the new epoch, the epoch of socialism.

After speaking on the magnificent successes achieved in Socialist Albania during these 40 years of the people's power in all the fields of life, the decision says:

The victories we have achieved have not been donated. In their essence lies the heroic national liberation war, the blood of thousands of the best sons and daughters of the people, the efforts, the sweat and toil of the broad working masses. During these years, new pages have been inscribed in the glorious history, in uninterrupted and irreconcilable struggle with numerous and dangerous enemies, internal and external, imperialist and revisionist. The unity of the people was strengthened, our new man was tempered in this struggle.

The past 40 years and the reality of Socialist Albania have proved completely the strength of Marxism-Leninism, the vitality of the socialist order, the correctness of the line our glorious party has followed and follows.

Our country, the decision says further on, constructs socialism in the conditions of the savage imperialist-revisionist encirclement and blockade, in the conditions of the grave international situations. The superpowers, the United States of America and the Soviet Union and other imperialist powers, with their aggressive and expansionist policy, threaten the freedom and independence of the peoples, peace and security in the world. These situations demand a greater evaluation and engagement at work for the realization of the tasks set by the party for the construction of socialism and the defence of the homeland, they demand a lofty revolutionary spirit and sharp vigilance of the party and people.

New and more brilliant perspectives lie in store for us in the development and progress of our dear socialist homeland. May the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the liberation be a special impetus for fresh victories in all directions.

In order to celebrate as good as possible the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the homeland and the triumph of the people's revolution, the Central Committee of the PLA instructs that a broad educational, propagandistic, cultural, artistic work be organised and carried out at home and abroad to make known the glorious struggle of the Albanian people for the liberation of the homeland and the establishment of the people's power, their great efforts for the socialist transformation and the safeguard of the victories of the revolution, under the leadership of the party.

During this jubilee year, the great historical events of the war and post liberation, national and local events, be commemorated such as the 40th anniversary of the historic congress of Permet, 40th anniversary of the formation of the democratic government in Berat, of the congresses of youth and women, the anniversaries of the formation of the partisan brigades, etc.

A powerful emulation should be organised and spread all over the country among individuals, collectives and districts to realise and overfulfill the planned tasks in all economic-financial indexes, to further strengthen the austerity regime, to realise the tasks set by the 8th Plenum of the CC of the party.

The cultural activity and the artistic and literary creativeness should echo the heroic struggle and work of our working masses. Our creators should provide our people with artistic works of high level and sound content, which should reflect even more the spiritual life of our people. The contests for literary, musical works, for documentary and feature films etc, should also serve this end. Exhibitions should be opened up in the districts and the central exhibition of the figurative arts with the best works should be opened in Tirana on the eve of this jubilee.

The finals of the national games and the great physical-sports manifestation of the younger generation should take place in the "Qemal Stafa" National Stadium, in October.

The military parade and the manifestation of the working people of the capital should take place on November 29.

After speaking of the tasks set to the mass media, the party committees, the social organisations and the state organs on this occasion, the decision says:

The Central Committee of the party expresses its conviction that the Albanian people, closely linked with their party, will turn the jubilee year of the 40th anniversary of the liberation into a year of unprecedented mobilisation, in order to look forward to this historic event with fresh successes in the implementation of the decisions of the 8th congress of the party.

BRIEFS

CULTURE DELEGATION TO ITALY -- Antonio Gullotti, minister of culture of the Republic of Italy, received the Albanian cultural delegation headed by Jorgo Melica, chairman of the Committee for Cultural and Friendly Relations with Foreign Countries, with whom he held a friendly talk. Also present at the reception was Bashkim Dino, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania in Rome. [Text] [Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 30 Jan 84 AU]

REPORTAGE ON POLISH DEPUTY CHAIRMAN'S VISIT

Bozhinov, Obodowski Visit Varna

AU031929 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The Varna shipyard workers from the Georgi Dimitrov combine gladly welcomed Comrade Todor Bozhinov and Janusz Obodowski, deputy chairman of Poland's Council of Ministers, chairman of the Polish side of the Bilateral Bulgarian-Polish Commission on Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, as their guests today. A meeting was held with leaders of the shipbuilding state economic trust and with the management of the combine. Questions on further expanding fruitful cooperation between Poland and Bulgaria in this sector were discussed. The Polish Government delegation, headed by Janusz Obodowski, also visited the Madara plant for freight trucks in Shumen.

Filipov, Obodowski Hold Talks

AU041623 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, has received Janusz Obodowski, deputy chairman of Poland's Council of Ministers and chairman of the Polish side of the Bulgarian-Polish Bilateral Commission on Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation. The state and prospects for the economic and scientific-technical relations between the two countries were discussed in detail. Special attention was devoted to the need to further improve our cooperation, which will be in keeping with the economic and scientific-technical possibilities of the countries. Todor Bozhinov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Bulgarian side of this commission, also attended the friendly talks.

Economic Memorandum Signed

AU042025 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Bulgarian-Polish economic relations are developing successfully. This positive statement was made by Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers Todor Bozhinov and Deputy Chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers Janusz Obodowski, chairmen of the Bulgarian-Polish Commission on Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, at a working session which was held in Sofia today. During the session, issues pertaining to bilateral, long-term economic cooperation and to the further development of mutual trade were discussed.

Tonight, Comrades Todor Bozhinov and Janusz Obodowski signed a memorandum on the talks. The ambassadors of the two countries, Georgi Georgiev and Wladyslaw Napieraj, also attended the signing ceremony.

Obodowski on Trade Links

LD051516 Warsaw PAP in English 1400 GMT 5 Feb 84

[By PAP correspondent Wlodzimierz Zrobik]

[Text] Sofia 4 Feb -- Poland's Vice Premier Janusz Obodowski stayed in Bulgaria from February 2 to 4 at an invitation from Deputy Chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers Todor Bozhinov.

Obodowski was received by Chairman of the Council of Ministers Grisha Filipov. The two discussed current cooperation and main directions of its further development.

During Vice-Premier Obodowski's working talks with Vice-Premier Bozhinov, attention was drawn to the need for further tightening Polish-Bulgarian economic ties in shipbuilding, automative and computer industries, as well as in the production of radio-engineering equipment.

In his interview for PAP at the end of his visit, Vice-Premier Obodowski said, "Polish industry has proved a reliable partner. In 1982 (Polish supplies to Bulgaria) were regular, and last year they were bigger than envisaged by the trading protocol."

"Machines and equipment accounted for some 60 per cent in the mutual turnover in 1983. Over 25 per cent of commodity supplies are carried out under agreements on specialization and co-production."

While evaluating the hitherto cooperation, Vice-Premier Obodowski said: "Although these are major achievements, in my opinion there still exist considerable reserves, stemming from both countries' potential. We should constantly reach for them."

To make these reserves accessible, key industries have already signed branch programmes for cooperation till 1990, and in vital areas also for further years. This concerns power and mining industry, metallurgy, machine-building industry, chemistry, agriculture and food economy, Obodowski said.

"At the same time, the ministries of science and technology of both countries agreed upon the directions of development of cooperation in those fields which will speed up the achievement of the economic aims."

Also, "within the coordination of five-year plans, central planning bodies of both countries are now coordinating the main lines of economic, scientific, and technological cooperation till 1985. Major stress is put on the integrative alliance between Polish and Bulgarian economies to be achieved by way of a vast scope of co-production and specialization ventures," Obodowski said.

"Every second kilogramme of sugar supplied by Bulgarian industry to the home market comes from sugar plants built and modernized by Polish enterprises. Over 100 thousand Polish-made cars are now moving about Bulgarian territory.

"Nearly 75 percent of road-building equipment operating in Bulgaria come from Poland, and nearly 80 percent of computer systems produced in Bulgaria are supplied with printing machines of Polish make," Vice-Premier Obodowski said.

As a new field of cooperation in the last few years, Poles have been doing building and assembly work in Bulgaria, he added.

"At the same time, every third battery-electric or combustion engine truck operating in Poland comes from Bulgaria. Polish industry has over 18 thousand Bulgarian metal working machines. 25 vessels with a total capacity of 340 thousand deadweight tonnes, plying under Polish banner, have been built in Bulgaria. Nearly 90 percent of tomato, cucumber, lettuce, etc. supplies to the Polish market are contributed by Bulgaria."

Obodowski Praises Industry

LD050047 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2100 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Interview granted by Deputy Premier Janusz Obodowski to correspondent Karol Bielecki at conclusion of 3-day visit to Bulgaria -- recorded in Sophia]

[Text] [Bielecki] Poland and Bulgaria have entered their fourth decade in the construction of socialist statehood. How do you assess Polish-Bulgarian economic relations over this period?

[Obodowski] Perhaps I shall reply in an untypical way. Poles associate Bulgaria with golden sands, paprika and grapes, but actually it is a country which has made a great progress as regards industrial development and economic development on the whole. I have not been to Bulgaria for several years and now I have been watching the country in great astonishment in a positive sense. We have to cooperate not only in the sphere of tourism but also in a very broad sphere. I am talking about industry here, above all.

[Bielecki] What has been proposed in the work of the Polish-Bulgarian Commission for Cooperation, of which you are a cochairman?

[Obodowski] It is the whole list of things. The Bulgarians want to cooperate with us in the shipbuilding industry. We welcome these postulates from the Bulgarian side but, after all, it will only be a part of this cooperation. They have well-developed electronic and electro-technical industries and a number of other industrial branches and we would like to develop cooperation in these other spheres too. They are experts on a number of other products in which we have always been interested and which will always interest us, as part of the division of labor in the CEMA cooperation. They are famous for their wagons for interfactory transport. They are also specialized in other productions and we are very interested in these. We would like to tighten our cooperation for many years to come, and not restrict ourselves -- let me repeat this -- to increase goods' turnover but also through cooperation in all the industrial branches of interest to us.

Obodowski Departs 5 February

AU051611 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] On 5 February Janusz Obodowski, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic and chairman of the Polish part of the Bulgarian-Polish Commission on Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, departed from Bulgaria. At Sofia airport he was seen off by Todor Bozhinov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of energy and raw material resources, and chairman of the Bulgarian part of the commission. Georgi Georgiev and Wladislaw Napiaraj, the two countries' ambassador, were also at the airport.

USSR TRADE MEETING HELD IN SOFIA 3 FEBRUARY

AU041530 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Trade held a meeting of leading functionaries from the ministry and other economic ministries and departments with representatives of the USSR trade mission in Sofia. The fulfillment of the plan for exchange of goods between Bulgaria and the USSR in 1983 was assessed.

The basic tasks stemming from the recently signed protocol on the exchange of goods between the two countries for 1984 were mapped out as well.

The meeting was attended by the Comrades Andrey Lukanov and Kiril Zarev, as well as by Khristo Khristov, minister of foreign trade, and by Leonid Grekov, USSR ambassador to Bulgaria. A festive meeting was held on the same occasion to award managers of Bulgarian economic and trade organizations who have distinguished themselves in efficient deliveries to the Soviet Union in 1983.

ZHIVKOV SPEECH ON AWARDING CUNHAL DIMITROV ORDER

AU031127 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 2 Feb 84 p 1-2

[Text] BTA -- Dear Comrade Cunhal, I am happy and pleased to carry out the charge of our party and state and to present to you the highest Bulgarian order -- the Georgi Dimitrov Order. This order is presented to you for your tremendous services in the struggle against imperialism, fascism, and reaction, and for peace, democracy, and socialism, for strengthening the unity of the international communist and workers movement, and also for your great contribution to developing fraternal relations between the BCP and the PCP, the friendship and fruitful cooperation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Portugal.

The order with the image of Georgi Dimitrov, the great son of the Bulgarian people, which has been presented to you today, is also connected with your 70th birthday, dear Comrade Cunhal, and is also an acknowledgement of your remarkable life's work.

The Communists and working people in Bulgaria are well aware of, deeply respect and cordially admire your remarkable activity as a fearless revolutionary, ardent patriot and internationalist. For more than 50 years you have selflessly devoted your tremendous creative energy and talent to the prosperity of the Portuguese people, to the cause of Portuguese workers class and its tested and glorious vanguard -- the PCP.

We know you well and we hold you in high regard not only as a remarkable figure of the Portuguese and international communist and workers movement but also as a brilliant journalist and speaker, as a talented painter and a scientist, and also as a friend who is known for his human cordiality, diligence, selflessness and proverbial modesty.

Under your leadership the PCP waged a heroic struggle against the fascist dictatorship and made a worthy contribution to the victory of the 1974 April revolution. The contribution of the Portuguese Communists to the great revolution and democratic reforms in social life -- halting the colonial war, introducing workers' control and implementing the agrarian reform, was a decisive one. During all these years, the PCP established itself as a most ardent fighter in defending the vital interests of the people and their achievements. Today the PCP is an impressive national and political force whose activity is based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and it also creatively conforms with the traditions of the Portuguese people and the conditions in the country.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Portugal are two small countries whose history has destined them to build their homes in the Balkan and the Pyrenean Peninsulas -- two of the gateways to Europe. The intensification of their bilateral relations in the name of understanding and peaceful cooperation can also favorably and positively affect the general political climate on the continent.

Now, when the most aggressive imperialist circles are deliberately exacerbating the international tension and confronting mankind with the realistic threat of a nuclear disaster, the forces of peace and progress in the world led by the Soviet Union are uniting their efforts and intensifying their activity in the struggle for a peaceful and happy future of the world. In this struggle, dear Comrade Cunhal, the PCP has made a remarkable contribution to mobilizing the Portuguese working people in the struggle for peace and disarmament, for strengthening the unity of action and cohesion of the international communist and workers movement and of all revolutionary, progressive and peace-loving forces. As far as the BCP and the People's Republic of Bulgaria are concerned, it is a well-known fact that our foreign political line is a principled and consistent line, which is steadily oriented toward peace and peaceful coexistence, disarmament and detente and toward understanding and mutually beneficial cooperation with countries that have a different social system.

Dear Comrade Cunhal, in presenting the Georgi Dimitrov Order to you, a laureate of the international Dimitrov prize for peace, democracy and social progress, I want to express cordial wishes to you for good health and personal happiness. May you continue to lead the PCP in the same inspired and selfless way in the struggle for peace, democracy and socialism, for the prosperity of the Portuguese people and for the victory of our communist ideal!

Congratulations!

JOURNALISTS SUPPORT CENTRAL AMERICA'S 'STRUGGLE'

AU042120 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1900 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] An investigating commission of the International Committee for the Defense of Journalists, which is residing in Sofia and is composed of Panayotis Paskalis of Cyprus, Markku Valniko of Finland, and Iliya Karadimov of Bulgaria has visited Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. Today they met representatives of the Bulgarian mass media.

Veselin Yosifov, chairman of the International Committee for the Defense of Journalists and chairman of the Bulgarian Journalists Union, expressed the cordial solidarity of the figures involved in the Bulgarian press, radio, and television with the just struggle of the Central American peoples for freedom and independence. He also recalled the answers of Comrade Yuriy Andropov in the letter to Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, UNESCO director general, by quoting his words about the great role of the mass information media in establishing mutual understanding and cooperation among the peoples and in the struggle for peace and eliminating the threat of war.

The three journalists of the investigating commission convincingly defended the idea of uniting the forces of solidarity with and support for the peoples struggling for peace. They also spoke about the situation of their colleagues, who under conditions of repression, moral and physical annihilation, are continuing to serve their people, their interests and their revolutionary struggle.

BCP CC SECRETARY MISHO MISHEV DIES 3 FEBRUARY

AU031920 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Misho Mishev, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, died on 3 February. He was an outstanding figure in the workers and communist movement of our country. He was a courageous fighter against fascism and capitalism, an active builder of socialist society, a hero of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

On this occasion the BCP Central Committee, the National Assembly, the Council of Ministers, the Fatherland Front National Council, the Bulgarian Trade Union's Central Council and the Central Committee of Fighters against Fascism and Capitalism have issued the following obituary:

"A selfless Communist and revolutionary has departed from our ranks. He was a patriot and internationalist, who devoted all his efforts and knowledge, all his conscious life to the victory of the socialist revolution, to the construction of a new social system, to the consolidation of the motherland's defense, to the intensification of the indestructible Bulgarian-Soviet friendship, and to the cause of peace and security throughout the world. A loyal and consistent fighter for the implementation of the Leninist party line, conducted by the BCP for the happiness and progress of the Bulgarian people, has left us.

"Misho Mishev's death is a great loss for the BCP and for all our people. His name and cause will always be remembered by grateful generations and cherished in their hearts, his deeds will inspire new fighters for the cause of socialism and communism in the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

"A committee has been established for the organization of Misho Mishev's funeral, with the following members: Petur Dyulgerov, chairman; Dimitur Stanishev, Vladimir Bonev, Sava Dulbokov, Khristofor Ivanov, Lieutenant General Mitko Mitkov, Georgi Evgeniev, and Dimitur Ganev.

"Misho Mishev will lie in state on 6 February from 1030 to 1130 at the National Assembly Hall. The funeral will take place at 1230 at the Sofia central cemetery."

PREMIER FILIPOV ATTENDS SOFIA DISTRICT MEETING

AU031322 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The 29th accountability-election conference of the Kolarov district party organization has been held in Sofia. Comrade Grisha Filipov also attended the conference.

The accountability report and the statements drew a balance sheet in a self-critical manner of the results of the political and organization work of the district party organization. Also outlined were the main tasks facing the district's Communists in fulfilling the decisions of the 12th BCP Congress and of worthily commemorating the national party conference.

FILIPOV ATTENDS LAND FESTIVAL IN SLIVEN

AU041902 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1800 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] A festive meeting of the front-rankers in agriculture, organized within the framework of the holiday of land and fertility, has been held in Sliven. Comrades Grisha Filipov; Peko Takov, deputy chairman of the State Council; Dimitur Karamukov, secretary of the BZNS [Bulgarian National Agrarian Union] Standing Committee; Velichko Petrov, first secretary of the Sliven Okrug Party Committee, and others attended the meeting. Comrade Vasil Tsanov, BCP Central Committee secretary, opened and chaired the meeting. Aleksandur Petkov, chairman of the Agroindustrial Union Central Council Executive Committee, spoke about the successes achieved and about the most important tasks now facing the farmers.

FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESSES DIPLOMATIC CORPS

AU031504 Prague RUDE PRAVDO in Czech 2 Feb 84 pp 1-2

[CTK report]

[Text] Prague, 1 Feb (CTK) -- Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, arranged the traditional meeting with members of the Prague diplomatic corps in Cernin Palace in Prague on Wednesday.

He opened his speech by acquainting the heads of diplomatic missions in the CSSR who were present with last year's achievement by the Czechoslovak working people, which had meant the further consolidation of the international and external equilibrium of the national economy, and the maintenance of the Czechoslovak population's overall living standards and social security.

Comrade Bohuslav Chnoupek then spoke about the most important problems among present developments in the world. He said that the past year had caused considerable alarm among all responsible people over the rapid exacerbation of the situation in the world. This exacerbation was caused by the growth of militarism and by the aggressiveness of imperialist forces; by their endeavor to disrupt at any price the present military equilibrium, which forms the basis of international security, and to acquire supremacy; and by the deployment of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe, which has made the continuation of the Geneva talks impossible.

This is exactly why we were forced -- after the delivery and installation of the first Pershings, that is, in a qualitatively absolutely new military-strategic situation -- to start adopting inevitable defense measures, to start preparatory work for developing operational-tactical missile complexes, the Czechoslovak minister of foreign affairs further stated. These measures met with understanding on the part of our population; the same can also be said of the other countermeasures, which were announced in the 24 November declaration of Yuriy Andropov, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

At the same time, the way out of the present exacerbated and dangerous situation cannot be sought by deliberately distorting the situation in the claim that the new American missiles in Europe have not harmed relations between East and West, that they have not threatened international security, that in fact nothing so terrible has happened in world affairs. This is a delusion. It is merely a vain attempt to allay the people's fears over imperialism's growing military preparations. The deployment of new American nuclear missiles in Europe logically increases not only military tension, but also political tension.

Bohuslav Chnoupek said that an honestly conducted dialogue aimed at achieving concrete agreements on the basis of equality and equal security was the way out of the present situation. Last week's new appeal of the top Soviet representative to the United States of America and NATO falls into this category. The socialist states welcome this willingness of the Soviet Union to resolve the burning issue of nuclear arms in Europe, provided that the United States of America and NATO show willingness to revert to the situation that existed prior to the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles before it is too late.

Comrade Chnoupek then stressed that the conditions for such an honestly conducted dialogue still exist, in particular, the fact that political realism is proving to be highly resistant and viable in spite of all obstacles. This was confirmed by the results of the final phase of the Madrid meeting.

Above all, it was shown by its decision on the Stockholm conference on confidence-building measures and security and disarmament in Europe. This significant international forum represents the hope that it will become an important contribution to applying detente to the military sphere. We approach this forum with the resolve to contribute to the maximum to its constructive course and positive results. We regard the strengthening of trust and security as a striking orientation of European policy, which could normalize the tense international political climate. We will work untiringly for detente, the only sensible alternative of the present.

Comrade Bohuslav Chnoupek concluded by voicing the conviction that today the government of every country can actively contribute to this historic mission. Only one thing is needed for this: goodwill, and the endeavor to learn to think in a new way under new conditions. We, he said, do not want the responsible politicians of the West, who have a decisive word in the issues of war and peace, to give up their convictions. We merely ask them to go back to the methods of recent years, when common sense prevailed; to withdraw from the "cold-war" scripts which have been overcome; to grasp the sense of the demands of our times; to overcome conservatism in their way of thinking; and not to let themselves be carried away by opinions that ignore the political arrangement of postwar Europe. The path toward overcoming the division of our continent cannot be found in fanning propaganda campaigns, in boycotts and in sanctions: it must be seen in the dynamization of the political dialogue, in the multiplying of occasions for developing economic cooperation and cultural contacts as is anchored in the agreements of Helsinki.

Nur ad-Din Dellici, ambassador of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, spoke on behalf of the diplomatic corps as its dean. He voiced concern over the current development of the international situation, which is undergoing a serious crisis and which poses the threat of a nuclear catastrophe. He called the continued effort to ease tension in the world the most important task of today, warned against confusing dialogue with confrontation in relations between nations, and called for the use of the enormous means that are being spent on armament to eliminate hunger, illiteracy, and other problems of mankind.

POLISH DEMOCRATIC PARTY DELEGATION ARRIVES

LD050019 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] A delegation of the Polish Democratic Party headed by Edward Kowalczyk, chairman of its Central Committee, arrived in Prague today. During its visit to Czechoslovakia it will hold talks with a delegation of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party on the future intensification of the traditional cooperation between the two political parties.

BRIEFS

ROLE OF SMALL FARMERS -- Contracts have already been concluded in the Slovak Socialist Republic for the delivery of 180,987 metric tons of fresh vegetables in 1984, which is 98.7 percent of the planned need. Small growers and gardeners account for 23.3 percent of the contracted amount. With respect to temperate zone fruit, they account for 8.3 percent of the contracted amount. According to Eng Stefan Sotak, deputy director of the Fruit and Vegetable Stores sectoral economic unit, this is "far from corresponding to their potentials" since small growers and gardeners account for almost 65 percent of all fruit trees in Slovakia. [Summary] [Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 27 Jan 84 p 5 AU]

PLO'S QADDUMI CONCLUDES BERLIN TALKS

Meeting With Fischer

LD021439 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1305 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Berlin, 2 Feb (ADN) -- Their deep concern over the dangerous escalation of the world situation, for which the most aggressive circles of imperialism carry full responsibility, has been expressed by Oskar Fischer and Faruq Qaddumi. The GDR foreign minister and the member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the PLO Political Department held a detailed exchange of views on Thursday in Berlin on current international questions and on opportunities for further strengthening the friendly relations between the GDR and the PLO.

Both sides in the talk agreed that the close cooperation of all forces who want peace and are willing to reach understanding is necessary to banish the threat of a nuclear world war and to lead international developments back into a healthy situation. They stated that the GDR and the PLO will work actively to this end.

In assessing the situation in the Near East, Oskar Fischer and Faruq Qaddumi noted that the dangerous escalation caused by the United States and her Israeli ally pose a continuing threat to world peace. Its open policy of force and interference is aimed at establishing military-strategic domination over the Near East. This aggressive policy must be resisted by the joint action of all forces interested in peace, stability, and the preservation of national independence. Faruq Qaddumi told of the PLO's efforts to continue its unwavering struggle to realize the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to form an independent state. In this struggle, international support, from the GDR among others, is of great importance. Oskar Fischer assured his guest that the GDR will continue to stand in active solidarity at the side of the Palestinian people and its sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

Talk With Solidarity Official

LD022038 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1712 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Berlin, 2 Feb (ADN) -- During a meeting today with Faruq Qaddumi, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the Political Department, Kurt Seibt, president of the GDR Solidarity Committee, reaffirmed the GDR people's solidarity with the Palestinian people and their liberation organization. Kurt Seibt stressed that in view of the peace-threatening imperialist conspiracy in the Middle East, great importance is attached to the worldwide peace and solidarity movement. He spoke about the varied and extensive help for the Palestinian people and the PLO.

Faruq Qaddumi expressed gratitude for the GDR's unshakable solidarity with his people's just cause. The political, moral, and material support is a source of strength and constant encouragement for the Palestinian patriots.

Fischer, Qaddumi Toasts

LD022215 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1856 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Berlin, 2 Feb (ADN) -- GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer gave a dinner in Berlin this evening for Faruq Qaddumi, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the Political Department.

Present at the dinner were Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee; Dr Ernst Mecklenburg, deputy chairman of the Council of State; Manfred Flegel, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Prof Ludwig Mecklinger, manager of the Council of Ministers; Colonel General Heinz Kessler, deputy minister of defense and chief of the Main Political Administration of the National People's Army; Kurt Seibt, president of the Solidarity Committee, and other GDR public figures.

At the start of the dinner, Oskar Fischer and Faruq Qaddumi exchanged toasts in which they pointed to the long-standing friendly relations between the GDR and the PLO

Oskar Fischer said that this visit "fits logically into the long-standing friendly exchange of experiences and views between the GDR and the PLO." In the current international conditions, strengthened relations "are useful not only for our relationship."

The start of deployment of first-strike nuclear weapons in Western Europe has brought about one of the most difficult tests of the postwar period which threatens the peoples of all regions. The socialist states, Oskar Fischer said, are doing everything possible and necessary to counter the threatening danger of war. As far as the Stockholm conference is concerned, "sound compromises can certainly be reached" with the political good will of all participating states. The condition for this is still mutual respect on the basis of equality and equal security. "So far, however, the West's reaction to the proposals and prior concessions of the socialist states reveals little realism and little readiness to improve the situation." In the interests of all the peoples, the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact states will not allow the military-strategic balance to be upset.

The GDR supports the Geneva proposal for convening an international Middle East conference. The fact that the Middle East conflict with its central problem -- the Palestinian question -- has not been settled is the responsibility of the Israeli aggressors and their U.S. allies, with their expansionist policy stand against the Arabs' interests. "With the reaffirming of the 'strategic alliance' between the United States and Israel new dangers threaten peace and the security of the peoples in the Middle East."

Oskar Fischer reaffirmed the GDR's further all-round support for the Palestinian people's just demands for self-determination and the founding of their own independent state. He recalled the meetings between Erich Honecker and Yasir 'Arafat, which have always given fresh impulses to cooperation between the GDR and the PLO. Oskar Fischer gave the assurance that Faruq Qaddumi's visit to the GDR will help to strengthen and expand the close and comradely cooperation.

In his reply, Faruq Qaddumi thanked the GDR for the support for the Palestinian people's struggle. On this basis, relations have grown and developed positively in the most varied fields. He praised the GDR's constructive peace policy, its activities at the United Nations, and its positive collaboration in the Geneva international conference on Palestine.

He said that a dangerous turning point has now arrived in the Palestine issue which aims to destroy the cause of the people of Palestine and of their liberation organization and to force imperialist U.S. domination upon them. His people, with the support especially of the socialist states, with the friendly Soviet Union at their head, and of all forces of progress, will steadfastly reject those plans "which adversely affect the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the creation of its independent state on its home territory." The relevant UN decisions, the initiative of the Soviet Union and the decisions of the Fes summit are "a suitable basis for a just and lasting settlement of the Palestine question," Faruq Qaddumi said.

The PLO also welcomed the proposal to convene an international conference within the framework of the United Nations, in which all interested parties, including the PLO, would participate as a means of reaching a solution to the conflict in the Middle East.

He described the "safeguarding of Palestinian national unity" as "a decisive weapon in the hands of our people in the realization of its goals." He called for strengthening Arab solidarity with no infringement of the independence of the PLO.

Honecker Receives Qaddumi

LD031525 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1114 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Berlin, 3 Feb (ADN) -- Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, today received Faruq Qaddumi, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the PLO Political Department, for a friendly talk.

The PLO politician conveyed warm greetings from Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the armed forces of the Palestinian revolution, which Erich Honecker reciprocated with thanks.

In their assessment of the international situation, the partners in the talk expressed their concern over the U.S. militaristic course, which aims to achieve hegemony, and the dangers it poses for peace. The start of the deployment of U.S. first-strike weapons in Western Europe has particularly increased tensions in interstate relations.

Erich Honecker briefed his guest on the GDR's active peace policy, which is aimed at guiding international developments back into healthy channels. The proposal of the Warsaw Pact states addressed to NATO for signing a treaty on the renunciation of the use of military force and on maintaining peaceful relations is particularly important. The Stockholm conference, too, is suitable for creating trust and reducing military confrontation.

The two men expressed their conviction that it is possible and necessary to make reason and good will a determining factor in world politics through the close cooperation of all forces wanting peace and prepared for understanding.

Touching on the continuing aggravated explosive situation in the Middle East, Erich Honecker and Faruq Qaddumi condemned U.S. attempts to impose its domination on the region by means of direct military force and political maneuvers. Both the direct U.S. military presence and the recently renewed "strategic alliance" between the United States and Israel pose a direct threat to the peace, independence, and national sovereignty of the Middle East states. This danger must be resolutely countered by united action on the part of all national Arab forces.

Erich Honecker reaffirmed the GDR's firm solidarity with all forces offering resistance to the U.S.-Israeli plans for hegemony.

Erich Honecker and Faruq Qaddumi noted that the main cause of the dangerous conflict situation is the still unresolved Palestinian question. In this connection, Qaddumi spoke about the PLO's efforts to continue the struggle to implement the national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and to return to an independent state. Erich Honecker assured his guest that the GDR will continue actively to support the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, in this struggle.

The partners in the talk said that, in accordance with the decisions of the Fes conference and the international Geneva conference on the Palestine question, efforts to seek ways for a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East conflict are particularly important.

Also taking part in the friendly talk were GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer and PLO representative in the GDR, Dr Isam Kamil Salim.

Fischer-Qaddumi Talks End

LD031915 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1455 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Berlin, 3 Feb (ADN) -- GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer and Faruq Qaddumi, member of the Executive Committee and head of the Political Department of the PLO, have expressed their satisfaction with the state of relations between the GDR and the PLO. They have continued and successfully concluded their talks in Berlin today. They assessed Qaddumi's visit as a contribution to deepening the comradely cooperation between the GDR and the PLO.

Faruq Qaddumi thanked the GDR for its principled stance in the struggle of the Palestinian people to realize their inalienable national rights, including the right to form an independent state, and for the steady solidarity.

Qaddumi ends his visit to the GDR tomorrow.

KRENZ, POLISH YOUTH UNION OFFICIAL HOLD TALKS

LD031752 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1204 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Berlin, 3 Feb (ADN) -- Egon Krenz, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, and Jerzy Jaskiernia, chairman of the Main Board of the Union of Socialist Polish Youth [ZSMP], who is heading a ZSMP delegation currently visiting the GDR, briefed each other on the social activities of youth in their respective countries in Berlin today.

Egon Krenz said that the FDJ is proving its worth with exemplary achievements in its peace drive, as the assistant and the fighting reserve of the SED and as representative of the interests of youth. In this connection, he spoke about the SED's experience in the communist education of all young people. Jerzy Jaskiernia highlighted the ZSMP's activities in support of the PZPR policy for strengthening socialism in Poland and for further deepening relations with the socialist countries.

They both stressed that the vacation and recreation visits by children and adolescents of the two countries, which are to take place on an even larger scale in 1984, further deepen the fraternal bond between the two peoples. They are a considerable contribution toward implementing the agreements reached by Erich Honecker and Wojciech Jaruzelski in August 1983.

HERRMANN, PZPR'S MALINOWSKI DISCUSS COOPERATION

LD022014 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1646 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Berlin, 2 Feb (ADN) -- Roman Malinowski, president of the ZSL and deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, was received today by Joachim Herrmann, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, at the Central Committee building.

During the meeting, which was also attended by Dr Ernst Mecklenburg, chairman of the Democratic Peasants' Party of Germany (DBD), the two sides discussed topical questions of the joint struggle for safeguarding peace and strengthening socialism. The partners in the talk paid tribute to the new stage in fraternal cooperation between the two states and peoples introduced as a result of the meeting between Erich Honecker and Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Joachim Herrmann informed his guest about the further implementation of the decisions of the 10th SED Congress in the year of the GDR's 35th anniversary. With outstanding contributions of their own, the parties allied in friendship with the party of the working class and all forces united in the GDR National Front, are preparing for the anniversary of the socialist state of workers and peasants on German soil.

Roman Malinowski reported on current developments in the Polish People's Republic and stressed that there is further progress in consolidating the positions of socialism. Political forces allied with the PZPR are paying special attention now to the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Polish People's Republic.

FDGB, POLISH TU DELEGATION SIGN VACATION ACCORD

AU021746 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 1 Feb 84 p 2

[Text] Berlin, (ADN) -- A delegation of the FDGB National Executive Committee headed by its chairman, Harry Tisch, and a delegation of the Board of Chairmen of the Polish Trade Union Federation met for a talk in Berlin on Tuesday. The Polish delegation included Alfred Miodovicz, chairman of the board and of the Iron and Steel Industry Workers Federation, and Bogdan Nowak, deputy chairman of the Metalworkers and Electrical Industry Workers Federation.

The discussion focused on the trade unions' tasks in the GDR and PPR, especially, their responsibility for raising the efficiency of the two countires' national economies. Harry Tisch explained how the GDR trade unions are organizing a socialist competition for the all-round strengthening of socialism while devoting great attention to working and living conditions. He stressed that the universal strengthening of the national economy is a decisive condition for further implementing the main task. Only on the basis of a rising production and a rising national income is it possible to gradually improve working and living conditions.

The sides stressed that the struggle to safeguard and preserve peace, and for arms limitations and disarmament is the foremost concern in representing trade union interests.

The sides signed an agreement on further cooperation between the GDR and PPR trade unions. In compliance with the joint declaration by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and GDR State Council chairman, and Army General Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and PPR Council of Ministers chairman, signed in August last year, measures for the exchange of vacationers were laid down in the agreement.

On the basis of cooperation between GDR and PPR enterprises, 40,000 trade union members of each country will be given the opportunity to spend their vacation in the other friendly country in 1984. The FDGB and the Board of Chairmen of the Polish Trade Union Federation will seek to raise this figure in 1985 to 50,000 places. The contracting sides undertake to actively support free accomodation and care for children in enterprise vacation camps to the extent agreed upon between the two countries' governments. Moreover, an exchange of places for stays at health resorts is envisaged.

On the part of the FDGB, the talks were attended by FDGB National Executive Committee Presidium members Frank Bochow, secretary of the National Executive Committee, and Reinhard Sommer, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the metalworkers industrial trade union.

Also present at the talks was Maciej Wirowski, PPR ambassador in the GDR.

U.S. AGRICULTURAL OFFICIAL ON IMPROVING TRADE

AU031209 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 2 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Berlin (ADN) -- At a press conference in Berlin, Daniel Amstutz, U.S. under secretary of agriculture, advocated an improvement in his country's bilateral agricultural trade relations with the GDR. The GDR commands "substantial sums" and it enjoys an "extraordinarily high creditworthiness," he said. The GDR meets its commitments without delay. Amstutz stated that he therefore supports the efforts of private banks in the United States to engage in activities in this respect.

HAGER RECEIVES SRV CP SCIENCE DELEGATION

AU261811 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 25 Jan 84 p 2

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN) -- On 24 January, Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, received a delegation of the SRV CP under the leadership of Pham Nhu Cuong, deputy chairman of the Central Committee Commission for Science and Education, which is paying a study visit to the GDR. The Vietnamese guests acquainted themselves with the SED's experiences in the handling of science and education.

FRG PEASANTS DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS

AU021741 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 1 Feb 84 p 2

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN) -- A delegation of the FRG Peasants Union under the leadership of its president, Constantin Baron Heereman von Zuydtwyck, has arrived in the GDR on Tuesday at the invitation of the Peasant Mutual Aid Association (VDGB). It was welcomed in Berlin by Manfred Scheler, deputy chairman and first secretary of the VDGB. During its 2-day visit, the delegation will study the development of agricultural production cooperatives and life in the villages.

HONECKER DECORATES, PROMOTES VARIOUS OFFICERS

LD031925 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1500 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Text] To mark the forthcoming 35th anniversary of the Ministry of State Security, Erich Honecker today presented the Scharnhorst Order to meritorious generals. He also promoted colonels to major generals. Present at the cermony were Egon Krenz, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, and Army General Erich Mielke, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo.

PRIME MINISTER THATCHER CONTINUES VISIT

Ceremony at Heroes Square

LD031022 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 0924 GMT 3 Feb 84

[By Chris Moncrieff, PRESS ASSOCIATION chief political correspondent in Budapest]

[Excerpts] Mrs Thatcher braved the sullen, chill Budapest morning today without a coat to lay a wreath in a brief, solemn, silent ceremony at Heroes Square in the heart of the Hungarian capital. It was the first public engagement during her 48-hour historic visit behind the Iron Curtain -- her first venture into a Warsaw Pact country since she became prime minister.

An armed guard of honour comprising six Hungarian soldiers in Soviet-style uniform stood round the memorial, the equivalent of the Cenotaph in London's Whitehall, overshadowed by a huge column topped by a statue of the angel Gabriel.

Mrs Thatcher, who last night underwent the strange experience of reviewing Warsaw Pact troops at Budapest airport, will spend much of today in an intensive round of talks with Hungary's communist leaders. Two hours have been set aside for her confidential talks with the communist party first secretary, hardliner Janos Kadar, who has ruled the country's 10 million people since the uprising.

Throughout her visit, both in her private meetings and public utterances, Mrs Thatcher will persistently drum home the message that East and West must learn to live side by side in peace and, if possible, without a bristling armoury of weapons confronting each other. However, she has made it clear that this visit must not be regarded as a stepping stone to a visit to Moscow. She has said she has no immediate desire to visit the Kremlin and instead would prefer Soviet leaders to travel to meet Western leaders in the West.

Mrs Thatcher implied today that she was looking forward to more meetings with the Eastern bloc at heads of government level. In a BBC radio interview the prime minister said of her two-day trip: "I think it represents a new phase. It was not possible to talk in this way because other things precluded it in the last few years. We are at a rather serious stage. The Soviet Union have left the disarmament talks. There seems to be a good deal of uncertainty in the Soviet Union about their next strategy or tactics. It is rather alarming that one does not know about Mr Andropov. Once you have uncertainty, that is dangerous. You have to start to talk to re-establish contact. They are doing that in Stockholm. But you want also to talk to heads of government."

Talks With Losonczi

LD031154 Budapest MTI in English 1045 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Budapest, February 3 (MTI) -- British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, currently on an official visit to Hungary, met Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, at the parliament building, Friday morning.

The talks, marked by cordial atmosphere, were attended by Ferenc Esztergalyos, Hungarian deputy foreign minister, Rezso Banyasz, ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic to the United Kingdom, Peter William Unwim, ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Budapest, and John Coles, private secretary of the British prime minister.

Meets Kadar, Losonczi

LD032119 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Janos Kadar received British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in the Parliament building today. The MSZMP Central Committee first secretary and the visiting prime minister exchanged opinions on the international situation, East-West relations, and Hungarian-British relations, at a meeting held in an open and cordial atmosphere.

This morning in the Parliament building, Prime Ministers Gyorgy Lazar and Margaret Thatcher had a private discussion before the official Hungarian-British discussions began. After this, members of the two delegations joined the discussion. They noted that both countries are interested in maintaining East-West relations and in reducing tensions, despite the fact that in international political issues the Hungarian and British stands diverge. The two sides discussed the development of bilateral relations and dealt with the possibilities for developing cooperation.

After the discussions, Margaret Thatcher toured the Parliament building.

Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council, also received the British prime minister in the Parliament building

More on Talks

LD031429 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1258 GMT 3 Feb 84

[By Chris Moncrieff, PRESS ASSOCIATION chief political correspondent in Budapest]

[Text] The prime minister appeared to have successfully exploited a chink in the iron curtain today as she began her historic talks with Hungarian leaders in Budapest.

Although Mrs Thatcher has warned that no obvious result will flow immediately from this first visit by a British prime minister to Hungary, her talks today demonstrated a willingness on both sides to live together in peace and to increase trade between the two countries.

Mr Gyorgy Lazar, the Hungarian prime minister, with whom she had a 45 minute private meeting, was outwardly enthusiastic about her visit.

Apart from its historic nature -- it is also Mrs Thatcher's first foray into a Warsaw Pact country since she came to power -- the visit is regarded by the Hungarians as timely in an international context.

Mrs Thatcher stressed that although they followed opposing ideologies and belonged to different military alliances, it was vital that they should keep talking to each other, looking forward all the time.

This morning's talks contained no mention of missiles, but Mrs Thatcher expressed her own fervent desire that the disarmament talks should be resumed in Geneva as quickly as possible.

After their private meeting, the two were joined for further talks, lasting 80 minutes, by other Hungarian ministers and British officials and diplomats.

Mrs Thatcher, who so far has had virtually no contact with the Hungarian people in the streets of Budapest, has nevertheless made an undoubted hit with their leaders.

After seeing Mr Lazar she had what was described as a "cordial" but brief meeting with the Hungarian president, Mr Pal Losonczi, before calling on the communist first secretary, Mr Janos Kadar.

The warmth of the greeting Mr Kadar gave to Mrs Thatcher was incontrovertible evidence of the immense value he, as the effective ruler of the ten million Hungarian people, attaches to her visit.

Lazar Hosts Banquet

LD041153 Budapest MTI in English 1018 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Budapest, February 3 (MTI) -- Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, gave a dinner in the parliament building Friday evening in honour of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, currently on an official visit to Budapest.

Toasts were given by Gyorgy Lazar and Margaret Thatcher.

By the way of introduction, Gyorgy Lazar referred to the fact that Mrs. Thatcher is the first British prime minister to visit Hungary. "This visit is important as it sets an example that, even in the time of tense international situation, it is still possible to have a dialogue between countries of diverging social systems and belonging to different alliances."

The chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers expressed his satisfaction about the talks that confirmed the mutual will that in the future Hungary and Great Britain would do more for the improvement of bilateral relations.

He stated: "Although we have different views on a number of international issues, points of mutual interest can be found, which provide possibilities for seeking a way-out from the present international crisis that threatens world peace. Our countries' relations are consolidated and free of unsolved concerns."

The Hungarian premier stressed: "We attach particular importance to the development of mutually beneficial commercial, economic and financial relations. We believe that, even in the present difficult world economic situation, this can be done if we pay due attention to the removal of obstacles from the path of development and to the better use of existing possibilities."

Gyorgy Lazar then discussed key international issues: "Despite the present tense international situation, we are convinced that there is no acceptable alternative to detente. We have different views as to why tension is on the increase. The decision on the deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe and their actual deployment has intensified political and military tension on our continent and has placed further burdens on East-West relations.

"Our government, as a committed supporter of peace, continues to hold the stand that controversial issues, including the problem of nuclear armament, can and must be settled through political means, through negotiations. We are deeply convinced that the proposals of the Soviet Union and the members of the Warsaw Treaty Organization, made at several forums, serve as a good basis for talks. However, to make headway firm determination, reasonable compromises and their manifestation in deeds are called forth."

Gyorgy Lazar stressed: "It is vital for all nations to avoid a nuclear catastrophe. Each forum must be used, including the Stockholm conference, to improve development, the reduction of mistrust and the maintenance of the Helsinki process. The main target of our foreign policy is the protection of peace and the maintenance of the process of security and cooperation in Europe. We intend to foster the relations of Hungary and the United Kingdom in this spirit."

Answering her host the British prime minister used a charming gesture when she said in Hungarian "I am happy to be in Budapest." In her toast Mrs Thatcher recalled several examples from the history of British-Hungarian relations, and said that "the only ice in our relations" is the British ice-dancing pair that won the European championships in Budapest three weeks ago.

On interstate relations she stated: "Both our nations are trading nations. Both have suffered from current world economic difficulties. We welcome the signs that the recession is ending. This will give us better opportunities to increase our bilateral trade. We wish success to the promotion of your exports through the 'Hungarian days' shortly to be held in London. We encourage you to study and analyse the British market and seek further export possibilities. The British door is open. And we ask that our businessmen should receive comparable opportunities here to compete with all comers on equal terms."

Margaret Thatcher stated that she comes to Hungary at a time when the political landscape of our continents, and of others, is clouded. "We have already had the chance to tell each other something of the aims of our government and of our hopes, as well as our fears about international developments. Today we stand on different sides of a political divide. But the search for stability, security and peace embrace us both. One great test of leadership in the next 16 years, until the end of the century, will be the imagination and determination we bring to the tasks of arms control and disarmament. We shall need political will as well as mutual respect.

"We must both be ready to adopt practicable measures. We must both be ready to have them verified. We must each recognise the other's need for security. If all accept this approach, there could be fewer nuclear weapons and fewer conventional weapons. At the current Stockholm conference we seek concrete measures to strengthen confidence and security in Europe, and Britain will do everything possible to achieve that goal. In Budapest tonight I stress that Britain and her allies positively want agreements to reduce arms. The need is urgent. This is the time to talk, that time to negotiate, the time to succeed," stated Margaret Thatcher.

Finally Mrs Thatcher stated: "To work for a world where we can live together without conflict and to mutual advantage is neither to abandon our beliefs nor to relax our vigil. And the membership of our respective alliances does not exclude bilateral cooperation. Peace cannot be achieved without goodwill. Despite our differences, I believe Hungary and Britain share these aspirations. We can and must work together for the onward march of civilisation."

Thatcher on Arms Talks

LD031947 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1829 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Mrs Thatcher tonight used her first visit to an iron curtain country since she became prime minister to deliver a new rebuke to Moscow.

At a sumptuous banquet laid on by her communist hosts, she roundly denounced the Soviet Union for walking out of the Geneva disarmament talks.

"This is no time for empty chairs in Geneva," she declared.

"This is the time to talk, the time to negotiate, the time to succeed."

Mrs Thatcher's undisguised criticism of the Soviet behaviour at Geneva came in an historic speech at the Budapest banquet, the high spot of her Hungarian visit.

Her presence behind the iron curtain, in one of Russia's satellite states, did not deter her from attacking the Moscow line in the disarmament talks.

Mrs Thatcher had spent the day in more than four hours of intensive talks in Budapest, preaching peace to Hungary's communist leaders.

Although both follow opposing ideologies, the East and West must live side-by-side in peace without a bristling armoury of weapons glaring at each other, she said.

She spent more than two hours with Mr Janos Kadar, the hard-line, 71 year-old communist Party first secretary, and effective ruler of Hungary's 10 million people.

She told him: "Of course, we hold different views, but it is necessary to talk across these divisions. If we are to make any progress, it is necessary to have a wider understanding of each other."

This theme she pursued all day in talks with the Hungarian president, Mr Pal Losonczi, and the prime minister, Mr Gyorgy Lazar, whom she has invited to visit London soon.

It was a theme she drummed home at the banquet tonight.

She spoke of the need not to look back but forward to the year 2000.

She warned: "We must not allow ourselves to be prisoners of events, still less to be deflected by plausible half-truths or empty panaceas.

"We must wrestle with the world as it is, and try to make it what we would like it to be."

Mrs Thatcher: "I come to Hungary at a time when the political landscape of our own continent, and of others, is clouded.

"Today we stand on different sides of a political divide. But the search for stability, security and peace embraces us both.

"One great test of leadership in the next 16 years will be the imagination and determination we bring to the talks of arms control and disarmament. We shall need political will as well as mutual respect."

The Prime Minister said both sides must recognise the other's need for security.

"If all accept this approach, there could be fewer nuclear weapons, fewer conventional weapons, and for a start, perhaps chemical weapons could be abolished altogether as Britain has already done."

Mrs Thatcher went on: "In Budapest tonight, I stress that Britain and her allies positively want agreements to reduce arms. The need is urgent.

"Weapons that were fiction yesterday are fact today and will be overtaken tomorrow. There is a deep yearning among our peoples to halt and reverse this process, particularly in the nuclear field.

"This is no time for empty chairs in Geneva. This is the time to talk, the time to negotiate, the time to succeed."

Mrs Thatcher said that despite differences between the British and Hungarian systems, there were common interests to pursue.

"To work for a world where we can live together without conflict and to our mutual advantage is neither to abandon our beliefs nor to relax our vigil.

"And the membership of our respective alliances does not exclude bilateral cooperation."

She said that peace meant more than the silence of guns and a signature on a treaty. "We seek the kind of peace in which each nation keeps its self-respect and in which men and nations devote themselves to building a better life for their children."

Mr Lazar, in a speech which spoke earnestly of the need for East-West cooperation, nevertheless stuck broadly to the Soviet line.

He said: "We are deeply convinced that the well-known proposals of the Soviet Union and the proposals of the member states of the Warsaw Treaty, worked out with the active participation of the Hungarian People's Republic and submitted at various forums, provide a good basis for negotiations.

"These are fair and flexible proposals, ones which take into account the security interests of the other side, too.

"But for progress, there is a need for serious commitment and for reasonable compromises to be manifested in deeds, because that is the only way how the basis and conditions can be created for agreements adhering to principles of equality and equal security and for Europe to return to the road of detent."

Mr Lazar spoke, too, of the decision to deploy American missiles in Europe.

He bluntly told Mrs Thatcher that these steps, "aimed at upsetting the balance of military power", aggravated political and military tensions on the continent and further burdened East-West relations.

He said: "Such a situation has arisen in which the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Treaty are compelled to take counter-measures.

"We hold that more weapons do not give more security, the military balance of power should be guaranteed at the lowest possible level of armaments."

Earlier, in a radio interview, Mrs Thatcher expressed the hope that her visit would be the first step of quite a long journey.

"I think we shall achieve what we came to achieve," she said.

"But there won't be obvious results flowing from it immediately."

Even so, the warmth extended to Mrs Thatcher by the Hungarian leaders was clear evidence of the importance they attach to her visit.

Hungary, probably more than any other Soviet satellite, is stretching out to extend its contacts with the West. Mrs Thatcher gave no hint anywhere that she had changed her desire not to visit Moscow in the immediate future. She has already said she would prefer the Soviet leaders to travel beyond their frontiers and meet Western leaders in the West.

Thatcher Press Conference

LD041723 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 4 Feb 84

[From the "168 Hours" program]

[Text] We report on the press briefing given by the head of the British Government, which started an hour before our broadcast. Gyorgy Bolgar reports from the conference hall of the Atrium Hyatt Hotel:

[Bolgar] The British prime minister described her visit to Hungary as very useful, as an initiative that could be a step toward better East-West relations.

At the same time, she has no illusions, she said, because she knows that this is a slow process.

That was from the introductory statement that Margaret Thatcher made a short time ago at her press conference held at the Atrium Hyatt Hotel.

While Zsolt Bajnok, chairman of the Government Information Bureau, greeted at least 100 Hungarian and foreign journalists, the lady prime minister arranged the vast number of microphones in front of her, poured herself a glass of water, and read a prepared statement.

In this, she described her talks conducted with the Hungarian leaders as open and constructive. She said that throughout the world, anxiety can be felt because of the increasing arms buildup. For this reason, both Hungary and Great Britain would like it if, as a result of the continuing talks, armaments could successfully be reduced in a balanced manner to the lowest possible level.

The ideological, political, economic, and social differences between East and West are clear. These cannot be stopped, but in the interest of peace, we should like to look to the future, the British prime minister said.

There then followed the part of the press conference in which the journalists could put their questions. On behalf of Hungarian radio I asked the lady prime minister why she chose precisely this time to visit Hungary, since Hungary and Britain have in the past been quite far apart, and not only in the geographical sense. In addition, there has never been a British prime minister here before:

[Begin Thatcher recording in English with superimposed Hungarian translation] Well, I think it not quite right that the first British prime minister who does come here should be blamed for the failings of her predecessors. But I have come precisely in order to make up for this shortcoming. I felt that this is the right time for the visit, so that we might make an initiative. I had a valid invitation, and I have now accepted it with pleasure. [end recording]

Further on, in answer to other questions, the British prime minister warned against anyone expecting much from a single step, but for her own part she understands East-West relations better today than 2 days ago.

She does not think that NATO could reverse its missile deployment decision, she said. At the same time she hopes that the USSR will return to the Geneva talks. In the interest of this, however, she added the noteworthy remark that also better understanding in general is necessary between East and West. For without this, it is not possible to discuss specific details.

Speaking about Hungarian-British relations, Mrs Thatcher expressed her hope that these will develop in every field and she trusts that in the future she might meet Janos Kadar again. Britain is also willing to support Hungary's development of closer ties with the Common Market.

To sum it up, these were the most important statements made at the press conference. It can be sensed from this that East-West relations and the appraisal of the international situation were foremost in the journalists' thoughts, too.

Mrs Thatcher returned to the subject of the need for better understanding severel times. Therefore, in conclusion let me return to her introductory idea.

I am usually called the Iron Lady, the prime minister said, so let me stress now that I intend to work with an iron will with the purpose of reducing tension. There is a need for steadfastness and realism on both sides for this, and both the Hungarians and the British have these qualities.

Thatcher Statement

LD050500 Budapest in English to Europe 2100 GMT 4 Feb 84

["Excerpt" of statement by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during press conference at Budapest's Atrium Hyatt Hotel on 4 February -- recorded]

[Text] I am very glad to have the opportunity to speak to the press at the end of a most useful visit to Hungary, the first visit to this country by a British prime minister. I had a very warm and generous welcome wherever I have gone; and talks with the first secretary, Mr Kadar; the prime minister, Mr Lazar; and the president, Mr Losonczi have been open and constructive. Our exchanges have been valuable and I feel my visit has been a helpful first step towards a better relationship between the countries of Europe. I decided to take up Mr Lazar's invitation because I felt that a visit by a British prime minister to Hungary was overdue, but also for two other reasons. First, I wanted to see Hungary for myself and talk to her leaders; second, because I felt the time was right. My visit has amply confirmed that this feeling was correct. There's deep concern on both sides of the political divide about relations between East and West. This is because nuclear disarmament negotiations have been broken off and the buildup of arms has been intensified. We recognize these concerns in our talks.

We have also acknowledged our differences, ideological, political, and social. They are there and they cannot be wished away, but in recognizing them we have not dwelt upon them. Instead, we have concentrated on the future, a peaceful and prosperous future which ordinary people want the world over.

Speaking for Britain, I reiterated our desire to see the peace maintained and at the lowest possible level of armament, both nuclear and conventional, consistent with our security. Both of us, Hungary and the United Kingdom, want to see a resumption of disarmament negotiations which would produce a lower level of armaments of all kinds on a balanced and verifiable basis. I believe that the Hungarian leaders have greatly appreciated the chance to talk as much as I have and equally clear, they would like to see a closer relationship with Britain, closer economic, trading and cultural relations; we should try to forge them. For my part, I hope I have convinced them with my sincerity. Though I am known as the Iron Lady, I also have an iron resolve to work for an easing of tension and for a safer and more prosperous world in which less is devoted to arms and more to well-being.

I hope my visit has eased a little the burden of anxiety felt by ordinary people, but I am under no illusion that the development of a better relationship between East and West will be a very slow and gradual process. The only approach is hard-headed reality and perseverance. I believe that both we and the Hungarians possess these qualities in abundance.

More on Thatcher Remarks

LD042001 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1717 GMT 4 Feb 84

[By Chris Moncrieff, PRESS ASSOCIATION chief political correspondent, in Budapest]

[Text] The Iron Lady flew home tonight after a "helpful first step" towards better East-West relations.

Mrs Thatcher described her talks with Hungarian communist leaders during her 48-hour visit as "constructive and valuable." And she told a crowded press conference: "I hope I have convinced them with my sincerity. While I am known as the Iron Lady, I also have an iron resolve to work for an easing of tension and for a safer and more prosperous world in which less is devoted to arms and more to well-being."

She said she believed her visit had been a "helpful first step" towards better relations between East and West, but she thought it would take "quite a time" for visits between heads of government of Britain and the Soviet Union.

She would be "very happy" for Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe to visit Moscow if he had a specific invitation.

Mrs Thatcher said there was "deep concern on both sides of the political divide about relations between East and West." This was because nuclear disarmament negotiations had been broken off while there had been a build-up of arms -- "and this with an election soon in the United States and uncertainties in the Soviet Union about Mr Andropov's health."

She said that although Britain and Hungary acknowledged their ideological differences, these had not been dwelt on in her talks with Hungarian leaders. "Instead we have concentrated on the future. I have made clear that we believe in peace."

Mrs Thatcher said: "Both Hungary and the United Kingdom want to see a resumption of disarmament negotiations which produce a lower level of armaments of all kinds in a balanced and verifiable basis."

On the first visit by any British prime minister to Hungary, Mrs Thatcher impressed the country's leaders with her independent style and her sustained peace offensive. Her calculated public criticisms of the Kremlin for walking out of the Geneva disarmament talks were said to have pleased the Hungarians. Although she is expecting no tangible and obvious outcome to flow from the visit, she is convinced that she has personally inched the world towards a thaw in East-West relations. Few people believe that Hungary would have been allowed to invite Mrs Thatcher without permission from Moscow, and now that the Kremlin has seen the outcome of the visit it is likely that moves will be made through diplomatic channels for high-level contacts.

Despite her caution on the matter of a meeting with the Soviet leadership, a summit -- whether in Moscow or London -- must be regarded as a probability, though her aides are effectively ruling out anything before next year.

The peace message she delivered so assiduously in Budapest will be relayed to Moscow and studied closely, and forthcoming ministerial visits between Moscow and London should help pave the way to an eventual summit. Mr Paul Channon, a junior trade minister, is due in Moscow in May, and a middle-rank Soviet minister will probably be in Britain about the same time.

Mrs Thatcher appreciates that Hungary is among the most welcoming to Westerners of the Soviet bloc countries but she believes contacts with other Warsaw Pact states would also be desirable, and she is determined to pursue her crusade.

Thatcher Departs

LD042023 Budapest MTI in English 1740 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Budapest, February 4 (MTI) -- British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher left Budapest Saturday after concluding an official visit.

Mrs. Thatcher and party were given a festive farewell in Ferihegy Airport. Present were Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers, Jozsef Marjai, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi and several other senior representatives of the Hungarian political and economic life.

The airport was decorated with Hungarian and British flags; a guard of honour of the people's armed forces was standing by. The commander reported to the British prime minister. The anthems of the two countries were played. The Hungarian and British politicians bid farewell. A young pioneer handed over a bunch of flowers to Mrs Thatcher at the airplane. Gyorgy Lazar and Mrs Margaret Thatcher exchanged some cordial words and then parted after a handshake. The aircraft took off on schedule in the early evening.

Talks Called 'Building Blocks'

LD040024 Budapest in English to Europe 2100 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Keen attention is being focused not only in Hungary and Britain but throughout Europe on the visit by the British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher. The reasons for this attention are analyzed by Laszlo Pinter.

The visit of the British Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, is taking place at the time when the East-West dialogue is at a low point, due to the deployment of American missiles in Western Europe. The sharpening tensions have caused deepening anxiety throughout Europe and it is significant that the British Government, which for many years adopted a rather reserved attitude in the development of relations, initiated the current visit. A number of observers have noted what they consider to be a new orientation in British foreign policy, the (?endeav·r) to change the foreign policy towards the East [words indistinct].

However, it is a fact that during the five years that Mrs Thatcher has been in office, this is her first visit to a Warsaw Treaty country, and the statement she made over the past few months reflect recognition that Western Europe has a more direct interest in building East-West relations than the United States. Thus the Budapest talks of Mrs Thatcher could be a starting point in a new process which with a [word indistinct] momentum could contribute to the foundation of trust which is (?vitally) needed.

From this point of view -- and this opinion is shared (?by others) too -- bilateral talks between Hungary and Britain could be building blocks in the further promotion of the system of East-West relations.

Hungary and Britain belong to two different social systems. They are members of different [words indistinct].

Western commentators analyzing Mrs Thatcher's (?prepared) talks, (?clearly indicate that) Western Europe is concerned about the possibility of a return of the cold war. Therefore, they [words indistinct] to what they consider a change in the direction of Britain's diplomacy.

Under the current international situation, the high level Hungarian-British dialogue is more than merely a routine diplomatic event. Apart from contributing to the development of bilateral relations, it can improve international relations in a difficult period.

SZUROS-LED DELEGATION LEAVES FOR LATIN AMERICA

LD050150 Budapest MTI in English 1704 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Budapest, February 4 (MTI) -- Matyas Szuros, secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Central Committee, and party left Budapest for Mexico Saturday. The other member of the delegation is Antal Solyom, a member of the staff of the foreign affairs department of the HSWP Central Committee. After visiting Mexico, the delegation is scheduled to visit Nicaragua and Cuba.

PARTY OFFICIAL VISITS NETHERLANDS 30 JAN-2 FEB

LD031535 Budapest MTI in English 1047 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Budapest, February 3 (MTI) -- Gyula Horn, head of the foreign affairs department at the HSWP CC, paid a visit to the Netherlands from January 30 to February 2, and met Joop den Uyl, leader of the Labour Party (PVDA) and the party's parliamentary faction, PVDA secretary Willem van Velzen, foreign affairs secretary Maarten van Traa, Relus ter Beek, president of the foreign affairs committee of parliament, and other senior representatives of the PVDA. Gyula Horn met Elli Izeboud, president of the Netherlands Communist Party (CPN) CC, and Joop Wolff, head of the foreign affairs department at the CPN CC. He also met Jacobovits de Szeged, the political director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In the intensive talks, marked by a cordial and sincere atmosphere, the parties exchanged views on topical issues of peace, security and cooperation in Europe, with special regard to the situation that has resulted from the deployment of American missiles in Western Europe.

MSZMP DELEGATION VISITS INDOCHINA 19 JAN-2 FEB

LD050200 Budapest MTI in English 1728 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Budapest, February 4 (MTI) -- Headed by Geza Kotai, deputy head of the foreign Affairs department of the HSWP Central Committee, a delegation of party officials visited Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos, January 19-February 2. The delegation conducted talks on timely international affairs, especially problems of the European and Southeast Asian region, and the state of Hungary's bilateral relations with those countries.

The Hungarian delegation met in Hanoi Tran Xuan Bach, secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, in Phnom Penh, Hun Sen, member of the political committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and foreign minister, in Vientiane Phoune Sipraseuth, member of the political committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Central Committee.

NEW TRAVEL RULES FOR POTENTIAL CONSCRIPTS

LD021449 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Permission for young people liable to conscription to travel abroad has become much simpler. From now on, those concerned will only have to ask for special permission to travel abroad if they intend to stay abroad for more than 30 days, or if the conscript has already been called up, or has been informed of the expected date of his summons.

The permission is always issued by the recruiting command headquarters responsible for that given area. According to the law, liability for conscription starts on 1 January in the year the young person turns 18.

PAP COMMUNIQUE ON U.S. SANCTIONS PUBLISHED

LD031413 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0730 GMT 3 Feb 84

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Sanctions are illegal in every respect, according to a PAP communique published in all today's papers concerning the recent decision of the State Department and the White House to grant the Polish airlines 80 charter flights and to lift, with some restrictions, the ban on fishing in the U.S. fishing zone.

The PAP communique states that partial or temporary decisions are of no benefit to Poland -- the American authorities charge for every metric ton of fish caught, and granting permission for charter flights makes life easier mainly for U.S. citizens of Polish origin.

The Polish Government continues to demand that the United States lift all restrictions, that other unfriendly and illegal moves in the sphere of political relations, particularly aggressive anti-Polish propaganda, economic, scientific, and other actions be abandoned; and that essential steps be taken to remedy the damage that has been inflicted, the PAP communique reads.

SPD'S WISCHNEWSKI VISITS 31 JANUARY-5 FEBRUARY

Meets Officials

LD052253 Warsaw PAP in English 2026 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Warsaw 5 Feb -- SPD's Presidium member, deputy to the FRG's Bundestag Hans-Juergen Wischnewski, accompanied by Deputy to the Bundestag Walter Polkehn and the SPD's parliamentary floor adviser Eugen Selbmann stayed in Poland from January 31 to February 5 at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party.

The guests were received by PUWP CC Political Bureau members: CC Secretary Kazimierz Barcikowski, CC Secretary Jozef Czyrek and Minister of Foreign Affairs Stefan Olszowski, alternate member of the Political Bureau, Secretary General of the National Council of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth Professor Marian Orzechowski, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski and First Deputy Chairman of the Government Planning Commission Franciszek Kubiczek, and held a talk with head of PUWP CC Foreign [word indistinct] Czeslaw Dega. While in Sejm (parliament), the guests were received by Vice-Marshal Professor Zbigniew Gertych and held talks with a group of deputies -- members of the Foreign Affairs Committee. They also visited the Lublin Voivodship, where they acquainted themselves with party and trade union activities in work establishments.

In the course of talks and meetings which were a continuation of cooperation between the two parties, the guest got acquainted with the current socio-economic situation in this country and with the direction of further development. They in turn told both the FRG's socio-economic problems and SPD's stand on these problems. The sides exchanged views on the present state of relations between Poland and the FRG and between both parties, [word indistinct] FRG treaty of 1970 constitutes an invariable plane of development of mutual relations in all domains. In this context the visitors stressed SPD's involvement in the process of expanding these relations [word indistinct] a particular intention was paid to the dangerous tendencies in the international situation.

In this connection the sides stated that societies of both countries take a vital interest in giving up the armaments course, in combating the atmosphere of tension, in creating grounds for a return to the policy of detente and peaceful coexistence.

Calls for End to Sanctions

LD032223 Hamburg DPA in German 1529 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Warsaw, 3 Feb (DPA) -- In Warsaw Hans-Juergen Wischnewski, member of the Presidium of the West German SPD, spoke out strongly for an end to restrictions against Poland. In an interview with German journalists Wischnewski, who is on a visit to Poland, said that the joint commission should be convened as soon as possible to discuss economic [word indistinct].

In all his talks Wischnewski pointed out again and again that he had not come to Poland to fight in internal conflicts. His main concern is to help move relations between Poland and the FRG in the right direction, he said.

In Lublin on Thursday the SPD politician spoke with representatives of the new trade unions. He gained the impression that one has to take these new unions, in which some former members of Solidarity are participating, quite seriously.

KULIKOV DISCUSSES COOPERATION BETWEEN ARMIES

Received by Jaruzelski

LD041822 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] General Wojciech Jaruzelski, chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the National Defense Committee, has received Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, who is in Poland. During the meeting, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, the political and military situation in Europe and the world was discussed, as well as issues of cooperation between the Polish Army and other armies of the Warsaw Pact States.

Received by Siwicki

LD031831 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Army General Florian Siwicki, minister of national defense, has had a meeting with Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, who is on a visit to Poland. During the meeting, which passed off in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, current international problems and issues of cooperation among the armies of the Warsaw Pact states were discussed.

TREATY ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS SENT TO ROMANIANS

LD252318 Warsaw PAP in Russian 2100 GMT 25 Jan 84

[Text] Warsaw, 25 Jan -- On the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the signing of the Polish-Romanian Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance, Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Henryk Jablonski, chairman of the Council of State, have sent a

congratulatory telegram to the leadership of the Socialist Republic of Romania -- President Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP general secretary, and Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister.

The telegram says in particular: The treaty signed 35 years ago has become a firm basis for the development of friendship and all-round cooperation between Romania and Poland. The inviolability of its principles was confirmed in a new treaty signed in 1970, which is faithfully serving the cause of building socialism in Poland and Romania and the continual strengthening of unity and cooperation within the community of socialist countries.

We wish you, esteemed comrades, fresh achievements in the implementation of plans for the further development of Socialist Romania. We express the conviction that the friendship between our countries will continue to develop and strengthen, for the benefit of both peoples, for the sake of socialism and peace.

MINISTERS DISCUSS FOREIGN POLICY, DOMESTIC TASKS

LD031949 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] The Council of Ministers has considered key tasks of Polish foreign policy for 1984. A report on this was presented by the foreign minister.

The government recognizes that the positive balance of Polish foreign policy in 1983 is a good foundation for implementing objectives and tasks facing the state in this sphere in the present year. It was stressed that the effectiveness of Polish foreign policy is connected with consistently basing it on tried and tested principles whose contents are as follows: friendship, cooperation, and alliance with the Soviet Union and the entire community of socialist states; solidarity with nations struggling for social and national liberation; and peaceful coexistence with states having different sociopolitical systems.

When assessing the international situation, the Council of Ministers stated that the deployment of new American missiles in some NATO states by the United States has brought about in Europe the emergence of a new political-military situation, which is characterized by a lowering of the level of international security. It was pointed out that an important element in halting the confrontation and aggressive policy of the NATO states will be Poland's participation in a coordinated line of political action by the states of the socialist community, especially in the sphere of actions for disseminating and bringing into effect the peace initiatives of the Warsaw Pact and the disarmament proposals of the Soviet Union.

It was pointed out that every attempt at undermining territorial and political harmony in Europe will meet with consistent and decisive reaction from Poland. An important direction of action will be further consolidation of Poland's political and economic position in relations with other states. Discussing the state of and prospects for relations with the developed capitalist states, the Council of Ministers confirmed Poland's role and readiness to rebuild the structure of official political ties, and to expand the platform of economic relations on the basis of equality, mutual benefits, and noninterference in internal affairs. It was stressed that such a development of cooperation is in the interests of all the states of Europe.

The Council of Ministers adopted the key tasks of Polish foreign policy for the current year. In summing up the debate on this subject it was stated that Polish foreign policy, guided by its raison d'etat, is an important platform for cooperation between all patriotic forces of the nation for the good of the homeland.

Next, the Council of Ministers familiarized itself with the decisions adopted by the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and the Government Presidium at the joint meeting devoted to current problems of the activity and development of the trade union movement. Themes were adopted, in consideration of which the government will avail itself of the opinions of the trade unions. The relevant ministries were committed to undertake a penetrating consideration of the trade union proposals concerning, among other things, the working and living conditions of employees and their families submitted at the congresses of trade union organizations.

The Council of Ministers discussed the principles of housing policy, and the problems of housing construction. In this part of the meeting the following representatives of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth [PRON] were present: Wincenty Lewandowski, deputy chairman of the National Council, and Roman Nowicki, chairman of the Committee for Construction and Housing Policy.

Bearing in mind the need to step up progress in construction, the Council of Ministers established new principles for housing policy and construction. They are ad hoc and long-term in character. Work has been speeded up on the governmental draft bills on land economy and spatial planning.

The Council of Ministers recommended introducing to the principles of housing policy and construction, the conclusions arising from the discussion and the elements from the concept -- presented by PRON -- of speeded up housing construction. The adopted principles of housing policy and housing construction will be submitted to the PPR Sejm. In turn, the Council of Ministers adopted the proposed amendments in the bill on documentation of the population and on identity cards, together with the executive acts belonging to this bill. The new regulation is aimed at linking registration for permanent and temporary residence lasting for more than 2 months with the simultaneous submitting of rights to residence in the premises in which such registration is to take place.

The full text of the communique on the Council of Ministers session will be carried in tomorrow's press.

UNION LEADERS ATTEND POLITBURO-PRESIDIUM MEETING

LD031846 Warsaw PAP in English 1400 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Warsaw 3 Feb -- PAP has obtained interviews from chairmen of national trade union organizations who participated in the joint meeting of the PUWP CC Political Bureau and Government Presidium held this week which discussed topical issues of the activity and development of trade union movement.

Wojciech Obarski, chairman of the federation of trade unions affiliating agricultural workers, said inter alia: "I was favourably impressed by the joint meeting of the Political Bureau and the Government Presidium. The invitation of chairmen of national union organizations to take part in the meeting testifies to the rank attached by the PUWP leadership and the government to the developing trade union movement and its role in the life of the country. It is necessary to stress the friendly and favourable climate of the meeting and a matter-of-fact attitude towards all the discussed issues, which were numerous.

"Our union organization draws one basic conclusion from the last meeting of the Political Bureau and the Government Presidium, namely, that it is necessary to present all difficult union issues in a clear and firm manner -- from the factory or village level to central authorities. We have proof that this will be advantageous for the common good", said Obarski.

Kazimierz Pilat, chairman of the Polish Teachers Union (ZNP) and a longtime Polish language teacher from Gdansk, said: "The joint discussion between Political Bureau and Government Presidium members and us, unionists, lasted for about six hours. The issues vital for the working people dominated all the statements.

"The unionist participation in such high-level debates was an unprecedented event in our entire history of meetings with the authorities. For us, unionists, it is not insignificant whether we can convey our opinions through various intermediaries or present them directly to the persons steering the life of the country.

"All the issues which we raised on behalf of union members were given full understanding and interest. Sizing up the debates, General Jaruzelski said that the Political Bureau and government would continue this practice also in the future, which, one should think, would bring about benefits in solving various important issues concerning the working people in our country."

"I expect that the meeting will play a significant role in making the entire administration, both at the central and local levels, fuller realize the weight and importance of trade unions. Everybody must understand that our present trade unions will not give up their prescribed role of co-manager and ranking partner in solving key issues of the life and work of our entire society," said Kazimierz Pilat.

Stanislaw Bar, chairman of the trade union federation of construction workers: "I am very high-spirited with this partner-like form of dialogue, its concrete and business-like character. The opinions and proposals of unionists were put down scrupulously by government members, and will certainly not remain unanswered.

"Currently, the federation sees and recognizes an urgent need for cooperation with state administration and enterprise managements in such vital spheres for the national economy as strengthening of production discipline, organizational improvement of building enterprises and counteraction against wastefulness and mismanagement. But we do not want to take over the duties of administration."

GUS COMMUNIQUE ON 1983 ECONOMIC DATA RELEASED

LD031244 Warsaw PAP in English 1110 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Warsaw 2 Feb -- A communique on the socio-economic situation in Poland in 1983 issued by the country's Main Statistical Office GUS here today says the previous year saw an increase in the national income produced. As compared with the slump recorded over 1979-82, the production of many goods, especially those from processing industries, was higher than in 1982, but the supply of some items designed for the domestic market was short of the demand.

Most crops and purchase rates in farming were higher than a year earlier. Plant production was higher than in 1982, while the number of farm animals, pigs in the first place, dropped. The purchase of livestock for slaughter was lower than the 1982 record.

Investment outlays went up compared to 1982.

Poland's exports and imports to and from both socialist and capitalist countries rose. At the same time, the share of turnover with the socialist countries expanded.

In the first half year of 1983, with the inflation still on the fall of the population's real incomes was arrested, while in the latter half of that year the incomes in question started to grow.

Supplies of rationed articles for the consumer market were sufficient to cover the amounts on coupons. The supply of a whole range of non-rationed food products went up. The deliveries of non-food articles also rose but failed to satisfy the demand.

The year 1983 witnessed improvement in the efficiency of management, working time was better utilized. An increase in the volume of production and in labour productivity was favored by the continuation of the economic reform.

The value of socialized industry's production sold (calculated in constant sales prices) went up by 6.7 per cent compared with 1982, with the value of production in the mining industry going up by 2.3 per cent, and in the processing industry -- by 7.1 per cent. In small industry, production sold rose by 7.0 per cent compared to 1979. Production sold of the country's socialized industry was 10.3 percent lower than in 1979.

The tasks set in the 1983 Central Annual Plan relating to production sold were fulfilled in 105.9 per cent.

With a 6.7 per cent rise in overall production, the production of goods designed for the consumer market went up by some 4 per cent.

A production rise markedly higher than the average was recorded in the power industry, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, precision and electrical engineering, chemical industry, whiteware production, timber, leather, and printing industries.

A drop in production was noted in the fodder-making and wastes utilization industries.

The value of overall farm production (calculated in constant 1982 prices) was up 3.6 per cent in 1983, with the plan production rising by 6.0 per cent. Grain crops totalled 22.1 million tonnes and were 4.4 per cent higher than a year earlier. Potato crops reached 34.5 million tonnes, 7.9 per cent more than in 1982. The crop of oil plants amounted to 016 million tonnes, 27.5 per cent up the 1982 record.

The crops were better than the average recorded in the years 1976-80, save potatoes and oil plants.

The purchase of animals for slaughter in 1983 totalled about 1,765,000 tonnes, 6.7 per cent less than in 1982.

The procurement of milk went up by about 15 per cent against the 1982-figure while that of eggs went down by 4.5 per cent.

195,000 flats were completed last year that is by 5.2 per cent more than in 1982, 137,700 of them being completed in the socialized building construction that is 5.4 per cent more than in 1982.

In foreign trade, the value of exports last year was higher by 11.1 per cent as compared with 1982, while that of imports went up by 10.6 per cent.

Targets of the Central Annual Plan for 1983 socialist countries' currencies were overrun by 8.0 per cent in exports and achieved the planned level in imports, but in other countries' currencies 1.3 per cent was missing in exports and 7.1 per cent in imports to fully implement the plan.

Exports to non-hard currency countries went up by 11.8 per cent. While imports by 11.2 per cent. Exports to hard currency countries were higher by 10.5 per cent and imports by 9.8 per cent. Disadvantageous relations of export and import prices were still maintained in foreign trade last year.

On last December 31, the number of Poland's population amounted to 36.7 million and went up by 346,000 over 1983.

Population's nominal incomes went up by about 23 per cent last year. An average monthly pay per one employee in the socialized economy amounted to 14,510 zlotys last year and was higher by 25.4 per cent.

The increase of real pay amounted to about 2 per cent last year. In spite of the fact that average real wages went up over the whole year, however, owing to differentiated increases of nominal pays, real wages of 45-50 per cent of employees went down.

Population's incomes amounted to 4,272.7 billion zlotys and were higher than these incomes in 1982 by 24.7 per cent.

The value of retail sales of commodities by socialized economy units last year was higher by about 31 per cent as compared with 1982 (in running prices).

The value of commodity resources in retail and wholesale trade on last December 31 was higher by 38.6 per cent when compared with the end of December 1982.

Planned Results Cited

LD050013 Warsaw PAP in Russian 2100 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Monitored PAP transmission did not carry initial portion of this item]

[Text] The higher prices fixed for meat deliveries dating from 1 July last year and the growth of concentrated feed products from state reserves planned to rise this year from 3.6 to 4.6 million tons should help slow down the decline of the livestock herd. The first signs are already apparent and, in this connection, the Central Annual Plan for 1984 envisages a slowing down of the declining trend in the livestock sector and an insignificant [as received] growth by 1 million to 1.5 million head, of swine. But the implementation of even this intention regarding the growth in meat deliveries can only be reckoned on in 1985. In the current year meat deliveries, on account of the great decline in the herds, will be at least several percent less than last year. The deficit incurred therefore must be made up by meat imports.

There are chances of achieving a further significant progress in arable farming this year. Agriculture this year will receive over 12 percent more mineral fertilizers than last year and 4 percent more chemical pesticides. Supplies of tractors and agricultural machines will increase by over 10 percent and capital expenditure on agriculture and the food complex will this year comprise as much as 29 percent or so of overall capital investment in the national economy. There will be an increase of at least 20,000 hectares in the area of agricultural lands undergoing soil improvement work this year. Other measures, too, have been taken to create for agriculture more favorable conditions, which should begin to show results this year, according to the decisions of the joint plenum of the PZPR Central Committee and the ZSL Supreme Committee, and should permit Poland to ensure, to the greatest degree, the supply of food products and home market.

PCP'S CUNHAL PAYS VISIT 3-5 FEB, MEETS CEAUSESCU

Arrival in Bucharest

AU031016 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1000 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 3/2/1984 -- On Friday, February 3, Alvaro Cunhal, secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP], arrived in Bucharest, to pay a visit of friendship to Romania at the invitation of the CC of the RCP. The secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party is accompanied by Albano Nunes, member of the CC of the PCP, chief of the party's foreign section.

Arriving at the Otopeni Airport the guests were welcomed by Emil Bobu, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, Miu Dobrescu, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, Olimpia Solomonescu, deputy chief of section at the CC of the RCP, by party activists.

Talks With Ceausescu

AU031902 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1817 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 03/2/1984 -- Nicolae Ceausescu general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party met on Friday, February 3, with Alvaro Cunhal, secretary-general of the Portuguese Communist Party, now paying a visit of friendship to Romania, at the invitation of the CC of the RCP.

Emil Bobu, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, Miu Dobrescu, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP attended the interview. Albano Nunes, member of the CC of the PCP, head of the party's foreign section attended too.

Nicolae Ceausescu warmly greeted Alvaro Cunhal, stressing that the latter's visit is an expression of the friendly relations established between the Romanian Communist Party and the Portuguese Communist Party, as well as of the wish to expand and deepen these relations to the benefit of the Romanian and Portuguese peoples, of the intensification and development of the collaboration between our peoples.

Alvaro Cunhal warmly thanked for the invitation to visit Romania and expressed his profound satisfaction at meeting again with Nicolae Ceausescu and at further discussing bilateral and international questions of common concern frankly and friendly.

During the talks, which passed in a comradely atmosphere, the relations between the RCP and the PCP and the activity of the two parties were reviewed and views were exchanged on problems of the international worker movement, of the world policy, of the situation in Europe in particular. As the international situation is particularly tense, the arms race intensifies and the peril of a nuclear war heightens, it was stressed that it was more necessary than ever before that all peoples, political parties, all democratic and progressive forces should unite their efforts to halt the dangerous course towards a nuclear catastrophe and to pass to tangible disarmament measures, nuclear disarmament measures in the first place.

Emphasis was placed on the unprecedented scope of the great mass movements and demonstrations in Europe and other parts of the world, on the important role incumbent on them in inducing a new course in the international life, towards disarmament and the removal of the nuclear peril, so as to surpass the present serious situation and create a lasting climate of security, confidence and collaboration.

During the talks, it was assessed that everything possible must be done to eliminate the threat and use of force from interstate relations, to settle all disputed issues by political means, by negotiations, starting from the observance of each people's interests to develop freely and self-reliantly, according to its own will, without any outside interference. Likewise, the need was reasserted for action to be taken to eradicate underdevelopment -- which affects more than two-thirds of the world peoples -- and to eliminate the gaps between the developed and developing countries, to establish a new international economic order apt to guarantee all peoples' economic and social progress, of the lagging ones in particular.

Starting from the growing role of the communists and worker parties in the international life, stress was laid on the fact that these relations should be based on full equality, mutual esteem and confidence, on the observance of each party's right to self-reliantly work out its political line, revolutionary strategy and tactics, in keeping with the specific conditions in which they deploy their activity.

In this context, emphasis was placed on the importance of strengthening the collaboration and unity of the international worker and communist movement, on the deployment of the links and solidarity with all democratic parties and forces, with all the organizations which stand for a policy of international peace and collaboration, for a better and more just world.

An opportunity for a productive exchange of views and experience, the interview and talks between Nicolae Ceausescu and Alvaro Cunhal go down as a new important contribution to the strengthening of the relations of collaboration and solidarity between the two parties, to the benefit of the development of the friendship between the Romanian and Portuguese peoples and of the general cause of the communist movement, of socialism and peace.

Ceacusescu, Cunhal Toasts

AU031903 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1815 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 3/2/1984 -- RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu have a luncheon on February 3 for Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party.

The guests included Iosif Banc, Emil Bobu, Manea Manescu, Dumitru Popescu, Miu Dobrescu, Silviu Curticeanu, member of the CC of the RCP, head of section at the CC of the RCP, Constantin Mitea, member of the CC of the RCP, adviser to the party's general secretary.

The guests included Albano Nunes, member of the CC of the RCP, chief of the party's foreign section.

During the luncheon, Nicolae Ceausescu and Alvaro Cunhal proposed toasts to the strengthening of the collaboration and solidarity between the Romanian Communist Party and the Portuguese Communist Party, between the two countries, among all communists and workers' parties, for a policy of peace and understanding in Europe and the world over.

Departure 5 Feb

AU051637 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1614 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 5/2/1984 -- On February 5, Alvaro Cunhal, secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party, who paid a visit of friendship to Romania at the invitation of the CC of the RCP, left Bucharest.

The secretary general of the Portuguese Communist Party was accompanied by Albano Nunes, member of the CC of the PCP, chief of the party's foreign section.

On leaving, the guests were seen off at the Otopeni Airport by Emil Bobu, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, Miu Dobrescu, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, Mihai Nicolae, deputy chief of section at the CC of the RCP, and by party activists.

ENACHE MEETS NEW VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT, OFFICIALS

Ceausescu Message to Lusinchi

AU032103 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1930 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Caracas AGERPRES 3/2/1984 -- An exchange of messages took place in Caracas, between President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania and President Jaime Lusinchi of the Republic of Venezuela, on the latter's inaugural. On behalf of the Romanian head of state warm congratulations were extended and best wishes of happiness and success on the taking over of the high office of head of the Venezuelan state. Emphasis was placed on Romania's wish for the two countries to closely collaborate for seeking out new ways and means to develop the Romanian-Venezuelan relations in all domains, the economic and commercial relations first of all.

President Jamie Lusinchi thanked cordially for the message extended and requested that the president of the Socialist Republic of Romania be conveyed a friendly salute, warm wishes of good health and happiness, of prosperity and progress for the Romanian people.

The exchange of messages was occasioned by the call paid on President Jaime Lusinchi by Petru Enache, vice-president of the State Council, President Nicolae Ceausescu's personal representative to the inauguration of the new Venezuelan president.

Talks With Political Leaders

AU051833 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1623 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Caracas, AGERPRES 5/2/1984 -- While in Caracas to participate in the ceremony marking the installation of Jaime Lusinchi as Venezuela's new president, Petru Enache, vice-president of Romania's State Council had an interview with Carlos Andres Perez, leader of the ruling party, the Democratic Action, former president of the republic.

Carlos Andres Perez addressed to President Nicolae Ceausescu a cordial salute, best wishes of good health and happiness and expressed his admiration for Romania's foreign policy. Referring to his talks with President Nicolae Ceausescu, talks that made an important moment in the evolution of the relations between Venezuela and Romania, Carlos Andres Perez reasserted his wish to contribute to the intensification of the relations between Venezuela and Romania in all planes and to making more close the relations between the Democratic Action and the Romanian Communist Party.

Thanking for the words regarding Romania and her president, Petru Enache pointed out that the Romanian side would work further to develop the relations between Romania and Venezuela, between the Romanian Communist Party and the Democratic Action.

The vice-president of Romania's Council of State also met Reinaldo Leandro Mora, president of the Congress and Senate of the Republic of Venezuela.

During the talks the sides pointed out the good relations between the two countries' parliaments and the important contribution the Romanian and Venezuelan parliamentarians can make further to the development of the relations between Romania and Venezuela, and to providing peace and security throughout the world. Petru Enache also talked with Hector Hurtado, minister of development, and Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, minister of energy and mines of Venezuela. On the occasion the sides expressed the wish to amplify their economic relations through a diversification of their trade and opening of cooperation ventures in the field of oil, mining and other industries of mutual interest.

MEETING MARKS 36TH USSR TREATY ANNIVERSARY

AU031909 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1825 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 3/2/1984 -- In marking the 36th anniversary of the signing of the first Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance between Romania and the USSR, a festive meeting took place in Bucharest on February 3 in the afternoon.

Speaking of the significance of the celebrated event were Ion Stoian, deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, and Ye.M. Tyazhelnikov, ambassador of the Soviet Union in Bucharest, who emphasized the importance of the signing of the first Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance between the two countries. The speaker then stressed the importance of the new Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance between Romania and the Soviet Union, signed in Bucharest in 1970 and of the declaration on the continued development of the collaboration and brotherly friendship between the RCP and CPSU, between Romania and the USSR, signed in Bucharest in 1976, which ensured the ever upward course of the bilateral relations. Stress was laid on the decisive role incumbent upon the friendly relations between the RCP and CPSU, the meetings between Nicolae Ceausescu and Yuriy Andropov, in deepening the relations of cooperation, solidarity and friendship between the two parties, countries and peoples.

SCINTEIA MARKS TREATY ANNIVERSARY WITH POLAND

AU260943 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0930 GMT 26 Jan 84

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 26/1/84 -- Marking the celebration of 35 years since the signing of the first Treaty of Friendship, Collaboration and Mutual Assistance between Romania and Poland, on January 26 Bucharest daily SCINTEIA mentions that the treaty "opened a new chapter in the traditional relations of friendship" between the peoples of the two countries. In the spirit of the treaty, reads the newspaper, the Romanian-Polish relations, lastingly based on the same system, ideology and goals, have progressed to a superior stage and become richer, covering nearly all the domains of activity.

Pointing out that the second Romanian-Polish treaty, signed in 1970, with socialism victorious for good in the two countries, as well and the 1977 joint declaration that expanded the stipulations of the treaty, have consecrated in the bilateral relations the principles of fully equal rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, noninterference in the domestic affairs, comradely support and mutual help, and resulted in an amplification of the collaboration between the two countries, SCINTEIA goes on: The experience gained through developing these relations highlighted strongly the special importance of the ties of friendship between the leading political forces in the two countries -- the RCP and the PZPR -- and in the context, the decisive role of the summit interviews and talks, a moment of greatest importance being the talks between Nicolae Ceausescu and Wojciech Jaruzelski, occasioned by the June 1982 Romanian visit of a Polish party and state delegation.

On an international plane, reads the mentioned daily in conclusion, Romania and Poland work firmly to halt the international tension, for a resumption of the policy of detente, to put an end to the arms race and for a passage to concrete disarmament measures, nuclear disarmament in the first place, to strengthen security, peace and cooperation in the European Continent and throughout the world.

RCP SALUTES SRI LANKA COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS

AU271341 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0930 GMT 27 Jan 84

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 27/1/1984 -- The CC of the RCP addressed a heartfelt comradely salute and a message of militant friendship and solidarity to the participants in the Twelfth Congress of the Communist Party of Sri Lanka, to Communists, to the working people of that country.

The Romanian people -- the message of the CC of the RCP reads -- is well acquainted with the activity of your party, which makes sustained efforts, alongside the other national political forces, to promote the vital interests of the broad masses, the self-reliant socio-economic development of the country, the triumph of the ideals of democracy, progress, peace and socialism.

We express our satisfaction at the evolution of the relations of friendship and solidarity established between the Romanian Communist Party and the Communist Party of Sri Lanka and are convinced that these relations will further develop to the benefit and in the interests of our peoples, of the cause of international peace, security and collaboration.

COMAN HAILS 'CEAUSESCU EPOCH,' ACHIEVEMENTS

AU251521 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1143 GMT 25 Jan 84

["The Nicolae Ceausescu Epoch -- The Epoch of Outstanding Achievements in the History of the Romanian People" -- AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 25/1/1984 -- Under the above headline, SCINTEIA carries in its January 25 issue the paper read by Ion Coman, member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP, at the recent scientific session dedicated to the union of the Romanian principalities. We render excerpts from the paper.

The ideals of freedom, social justice and national independence, the unity of thought and feeling, of work and fight -- that have always governed the deeds of our people -- have become a viable reality in the years of socialism, crowned in the epoch ushered in by the Ninth Congress of the Romanian Communist Party, the most fertile epoch in the history of the Romanians, called by the people, in sign of profound gratefulness and choice praise for their wise leader, the Nicolae Ceausescu epoch.

The ninth congress of the party was held at a time when a radical change was required in all the fields of the material and spiritual life of the Romanian society for the country's development. The renewing process could be started precisely because it was then that, through the unanimous will, the management of the nation's destinies and entrusted to an exceptional personality, to Nicolae Ceausescu.

The years elapsed since Nicolae Ceausescu was elected as the head of the party and state eloquently prove the correctness of the revolutionary outlook on the dialectical connection between the role of the masses as history makers and that of the personality as the dynamizing factor of the constructive oeuvre.

The innovating thinking, the bold action of Nicolae Ceausescu determined vast reconsiderations meant to help the development of the Romanian society. His oeuvre consistently combats the phenomena of dogmatism manifest in the previous period, focuses on the nefarious character of any tendencies to mechanically copy solutions inadequate to Romanian realities, underscores the need to abandon obsolete theses, articulates laws adequate to the present evolution of the internal and international life.

Against the background of theoretical effervescence and movement of the Romanian social complex, the Romanian party and state leader has outlined the coordinates of Romania's social and historical progress in the new concept of the building of the multilaterally developed socialist society.

In the two decades elapsed since the ninth congress the technico-material base of socialism has considerably developed. Thus, the application of the axiomatic principle of the priority of the industry of the production means also aimed at ensuring a rapid development of the industry of consumer goods and of the products which directly meet the needs of the masses, to be identified, in the last analysis, in the quality of life. Refusing to fetishize the quantitative aspect of production, the party laid at the basis of economic growth, the development of key branches, which brings about progress, the steady modernization of industry and through it, of the entire production. Of particular significance and ethical importance are the policies of harmonious distribution of the forces of production throughout the national territory, the eradication of the arrears in some zones and the ensurance of their socio-economic prosperity on a par with the whole country.

The dynamics of investment starting with 1965, the large sums allotted to the programmes of irrigations, modernization and intensive development of agriculture, adopted last year, conspicuously point to the special attention paid to this highly important domain.

The proper capitalization of the national patrimony of labour and natural resources, the rational employment of the energy and raw material base, of the availabilities of the economy have imposed due heed to efficiency and profitableness.

The steady increase of the productive forces, of the national wealth is the foundation of the country's general thriving.

An outstanding contribution to this has been made, after the ninth congress, by the impetuous development of education, science, literature and the arts, by the democratization of culture.

The Ceausescu epoch distinguishes itself through a continuous deepening and expansion of socialist democracy, through original institutionalizations apt to involve the masses' wisdom and experience in the drafting and carrying through of all decisions regarding the country's progress.

Concomitantly with the providing for the organizational and legal framework of participation of the people in government, there have been recorded a permanent enhancement of the state's role as a state of revolutionary, worker democracy, and an improvement of its bodies' activity and of the socialist legislation.

The real and full equality among all citizens of the country exquisitely materializes in the Marxist-Leninist settlement by the Romanian Communist Party of the national question.

The eradication of social exploitation and national oppression, the securing of an equal position vis-a-vis the productive means and the country's wealth, the guaranteeing of work, of the access to education and culture, of the fundamental right and freedoms to all working people offer boundless possibilities of affirmation to the nationalities -- Magyars, Germans, Serbians, a.o. whom historical circumstances made settle in our country's territory and live together with the Romanian people.

The flourishing of the socialist nation is a primordial task whose importance is highlighted by Nicolae Ceausescu's conception about the nation's role as a decisive factor of progress in the past, at present and in the future. The general secretary's conception means an inestimable contribution to the theory about the evolution and prospects of the nation, a form of human aggregation offering the most congenial framework for society's development. Likewise, they brand the manifestations of the hostile forces and currents which, out of expansionist, retrograde reasons, try to promote the nihilist slogan of worn-out role of nation and national state. Life shows clearly that the national unity, built in the course of history and cemented in socialism, has to be permanently consolidated as an inviolable value.

In the political thinking and practice of our party and state, of Nicolae Ceausescu, independence and sovereignty are the keystone of national and international life.

The harmonization of the Romanian people's vocation for free development with the respect for the other peoples' independence and identity finds affirmation in Romania's international activity that has permanently grown, attaining in the years since the 9th congress the mark of universalization of its foreign policy.

The eulogies shown everywhere to the lucid efforts made by Romania and her president are out to the determination with which they work for the defence of the Romanian people's and the other peoples' legitimate interests and for safeguarding man's dearest asset -- life.

The demarches of Romania's leader also emphasize the intimate connection between world peace and the eradication of underdevelopment in vast regions of the world, the urgent need for the establishment of a new international economic order as a lever to liquidate the big gaps and striking inequities of our epoch.

The building of a more just and better world, a constructive collaboration among peoples, the settlement of inter-state disputes only by negotiations are associated, according to the Romanian conception, with the need for firm application of the principles of full equality of rights, non-interference in internal affairs and mutual advantage, observance of national independence and sovereignty, non-recourse to force and threat with force, principles that make the foundation of Romania's foreign policy and that are universally valid.

The general policy of the RCP and Romanian state, its constructive purposes on an internal plane, of collaboration and peace on an external plane, determine also the coordinates of national defense, an important facet of social life. The policy promoted by the RCP and Romanian state in the domain of defense makes the content of the national military doctrine elaborated by Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the party, president of the republic, the supreme commander of the Romanian Armed Forces. The guiding principle of this doctrine establishes that the homeland's defence is part and parcel of socialist construction, the cause and doing of all people.

SPILJAK SPEAKS IN LOS ANGELES, ENDS U.S. VISIT

Report on Speech

LD041803 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0746 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Los Angeles, 4 Feb (TANJUG) -- Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, who is on an official working visit to the United States, gave a lecture last night at the Council for International Relations. Sixty-eight heads of state or government, including President Tito, have hitherto spoken at this council when visiting Los Angeles.

Expressing his pleasure at being in Los Angeles which, like Sarajevo, will be host to the Olympic games, President Spiljak reminded those present in the introduction to his lecture that he had just come from Washington where he had very useful meetings and talks confirming the continuity of relations and cooperation between the two countries which is developing favorably to the benefit of both sides.

In this respect, he said, Yugoslav-American relations also have a broader significance as an example of equitable cooperation between two countries with different social systems and international positions in the world. "These differences are not a hindrance to constant dialogue between us on all levels," President Spiljak said.

"Broad reciprocal ties have been established between Yugoslavia and the United States in various areas, including scientific-educational, cultural, information and other forms of cooperation. The increasing number of American tourists who visit Yugoslavia can see for themselves the openness and feelings of friendship we nurture toward the American people."

"An important part in improving our mutual understanding is also played by the numerous American citizens of Yugoslav origin, some of whom are with us now, who make their full contribution to the prosperity of your great country, while at the same time not forgetting their old homeland," stressed President Spiljak, who then went on to dwell on Yugoslavia's economic problems.

"After many years of dynamic growth during which a great transformation was achieved in Yugoslavia, our country for some time now has been facing serious economic problems. This is a general characteristic of the world today, and its consequences are felt above all in developing countries such as Yugoslavia. We have examined the causes of this state of affairs in our economy from all angles. They are the result of international trends and also of our internal problems and weaknesses which arises at a higher level of industrial development. We are now discussing this openly and critically with the aim of fully understanding the weaknesses and errors and of finding the best ways out of the present difficulties.

On this path, Mika Spiljak said, the program of economic stabilization which has been adopted represents a complete and far-reaching platform. It is a question of an offensive development strategy based on strengthening the economy's export orientations and its increased presence and opening up on the world market.

Arising out of this, Spiljak said, is Yugoslavia's strategic orientation toward further strengthening all the components characteristic of a market economy model, founded on the system of socialist self-management.

This policy Spiljak added, hinges on reliance on our own efforts.

Noting that the first results of this policy are already visible, Spiljak cited the surplus in the balance of payments with other countries and the fact that last year Yugoslavia met all its current commitments, noting that the greater part of our commitments are maturing in a period of enormous increase in interest rates and the value of the dollar. Explaining why, despite all these problems and the drop in the living standard, there have not been social tensions in Yugoslavia, the president of the SFRY Presidency said: "Our peoples are convinced that the future of Socialist Yugoslavia lies solely in the further strengthening of the Yugoslav community and its self-managing system. This is why they tolerate a drop in the standard of living in the conviction that this is a temporary phenomenon which will faciiitate the preservation of what has been achieved and another move forward in raising production and living standards."

In his lecture, Mika Spiljak then went on to underline Yugoslavia's great interest in developing economic cooperation with all countries, and in particular with such a strong partner as the United States. In this connection he recalled that today Yugoslavia is the trading partner of 140 countries and has a firm position in many nonaligned and other countries.

President Spiljak then dwelt on Yugoslavia's political system and collective decision-making, emphasizing that this form of decisionmaking is based on the full equality of the nations and nationalities of the multinational Yugoslav community, and that the principle of collective decisionmaking will remain a permanent element of that system.

Appearing before the same gathering 12 years ago, President Tito said that nonaligned Yugoslavia advocates the removal of the various barriers to international cooperation. Citing Tito's words, Mika Spiljak said that this policy means constantly calling for the democratization of international relations, for the independence, peace and unhindered development of all countries. "In our broad integration with the world, on the bases of equality and mutual respect, we also see the best way of preserving our own independence," Spiljak stressed, emphasizing that Tito's thoughts and work represent the great heritage of Yugoslavia and its firm orientation in the present and its inspiration in the future.

"In our efforts to make a contribution to peace and the eradication of unfavorable international trends and their causes," President Spiljak said, "we are conducting an active and peaceful policy based on the original principles of nonalignment and the UN Charter. Together with the other nonaligned countries, we advocate full respect for the independence and right of all countries and nations to live in peace and freedom and to choose their own paths of development. We develop our relations with all countries on the principles of respect for sovereignty, noninterference, equality and mutual understanding. We oppose the policy of force, interference, foreign hegemony and domination. In this respect we adopt the same attitude toward all instances of this kind of policy, regardless of which side they arise on and the motives used in an attempt to justify them."

In his lecture, Mika Spiljak then underlined the fact that Yugoslavia is following the present unfavorable development of the international situation with great concern, pointing out in particular the tension between the blocs, the arms race, the world economic crisis, the lack of solutions in crisis areas, and the halt in the negotiations between the superpowers. Emphasizing Yugoslavia's vital interest in halting the arms race and taking up the process of disarmament in Europe and the world, Spiljak stressed that concrete results in the area of disarmament would lead to a revival of detente. He stressed that Yugoslavia, together with the other nonaligned and neutral countries, will endeavor in this respect to influence the orientation toward negotiations.

Noting that the problems of the developing countries are one of the basic causes of instability in the world, Spiljak said that the halt in the dialogue between the developed and developing countries has disappointed expectations, and that burning questions should be resolved more rapidly through dialogue, and not confrontation, in order to realize more equitable international economic relations.

"All future resolutions must also lead to the more rapid integration of the world economy and more equitable international division of labor. In this context, and in international activities, solutions should be sought to the problems of the debts of the developing countries, which are posing an increasing burden on their position and on the world economy," Spiljak said.

Emphasizing that the only way out of the crisis in international relations is through a policy of universal detente, President Spiljak said in his lecture that there is no alternative to the renewal of detente and negotiations and that this is the permanent and priority concern of the entire international community and the United Nations.

Nothing that the interdependence of the world today is greater than ever before and that peace is indivisible, Spiljak told those present at his lecture that the United States carries a great burden of responsibility, but also the possibility of contributing to the solution of these problems so that the aspirations of the international community for the preservation of peace, more rapid development and general progress might be realized.

"In the conditions of revolutionary technological changes and the growing interdependence of the world, undreamed-of opportunities are opening up for establishing relations which would be founded on independence, equality, mutual respect, tolerance of differences and peaceful coexistence. This is what inspires courage, hope and optimism despite the present somber international atmosphere," Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, emphasized at the conclusion of his lecture.

Returns Home

LD051420 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1027 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Sarajevo, 5 Feb (TANJUG) -- Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, arrived in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia-Hercegovina, direct from his visit to the United States on Wednesday, 8 February. The president of the SFRY Presidency will open the 14th winter Olympic games. [Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 1059 GMT on 5 February reports that Spiljak returned to Belgrade following a brief stop in Sarajevo; his aircraft had earlier been unable to land in Belgrade because of fog and he took the opportunity to visit the Olympic village.]

Makes Statement Upon Return

AU051610 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Branislav Canak report on statement by Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, on his return from a visit to United States at Belgrade's Surcin Airport on 5 February -- remarks by Spiljak recorded]

[Text] Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, returned to Belgrade at about noon today from his 3-day official and working visit to the United States. At Surcin Airport Mika Spiljak and members of the Yugoslav delegation were welcomed by Vidoje Zarkovic, member of the SFRY Presidency, Vojo Srzentic, president of the SFRY Assembly, and other prominent personalities. After arriving at Surcin Airport, Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, made a statement.

Here is a report by Branislav Canak:

[Canak] Asked to assess his visit to the United States, Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, said:

[Spiljak] It was a very open, very cordial, friendly, useful exchange of views. We have confirmed the principles, which the late President Tito built with American Presidents, of cooperating on an equal footing. Regardless of the differences that exist between us, we are developing further cooperation. I believe that this was very clearly expressed this time in our talks -- a readiness that the talks should continue.

We believe that both the welcome we got and the talks, the substance of the talks, the attention paid to us, the substance of the talks that we held -- all this was very positive, exceptionally good. This is the maximum that we assumed could be in these talks. I invited President Reagan to visit Yugoslavia and I believe that everything was very useful.

[Canak] A good deal of the visit was devoted to bilateral relations. Here is what Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, says about this:

[Spiljak] We had very intensive talks, primarily with President Reagan, then with Vice President Bush -- on two, three occasions we held talks -- as well as the secretary of commerce, the secretary of treasury, the secretary of defense, the acting secretary of state, who is acting on Shultz's behalf, and with a number of other personalities. All these talks dealt with topic after topic and thus the talks were very substantial. We noted where our weaknesses are. One such weakness is our trade deficit with the United States, and this is a problem of a triple [trolican] nature.

However, we held frank discussions on all problems. They spoke with great consideration and with great respect about the results that we achieved last year. They openly said -- and the international institutions also say this -- that Yugoslavia, in addition to Mexico, is one of the two countries that is an exception. Both these countries have regularly met all their international obligations. I must say that this fact has increased Yugoslavia's reputation in the eyes of all interlocutors. They all stressed this, perhaps much more than we ourselves assess ourselves in this respect. This provided a new substance for the talks; it has opened new prospects for future cooperation.

[Canak] As a nonaligned country, Yugoslavia enjoys a great reputation in the world. For this reason it is not strange that international problems are already on the agenda in the meetings of our highest representatives with representatives of other countries.

[Spiljak] This was one of the topics of rather intensive talks. Namely, President Reagan and the U.S. Government have recently made several speeches, several public speeches and statements, in which they spoke about their desire for peace, that they want cooperation, that they are against a nuclear war, that a nuclear war is senseless, and, accordingly, why should it be waged, and so forth. We replied that we welcome this, that we welcome such an idea, but that the present situation leads only to an intensification of tension, that there exists a great lack of confidence between them, and that it would be necessary to make some small steps, to begin talks so as to reduce the lack of confidence and open a dialogue, to a cessation [as heard] of consultations, and to a calming of the world situation, which is very serious.

They are very preoccupied with what the other side thinks, what the other side will accept, why it does not accept things, and so on.

There was rather lengthy exchange of views about this. I must say that, showing much respect and interest, they wanted to hear our views about this. Accordingly, the talks were very interesting and substantial on this problem.

Visit Reviewed

AU051440 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] The working friendly visit of Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, to the United States has concluded. Our delegation left Los Angeles for Belgrade this evening. Goran Milic, our special correspondent, reports from Los Angeles:

It is the joint view of the American hosts and the guests from Yugoslavia that Mika Spiljak's visit has been successful. It did not bring any spectacular results or turns, for Yugoslav-American relations have a long tradition and are constant, so that nothing changes overnight. The Americans accept Yugoslavia as it is, and this is the basis for good and stable links. Our country respects the great achievements of the American nation, but does not hide the differences in views on some international problems. So it was under President Tito, and so it is now under our collective Presidency. America adopted this position some time in the early fifties. For the relations between Belgrade and Washington it is not very essential who are taking part in the summit meeting.

However, every visit has its own emphasis. In this one by President Spiljak, the stress was put on economic and financial cooperation. The announced preliminary agreement between Occidental Petroleum, the company of the famous businessman, Armand Hammer, and Genex and Ina may, theoretically, increase Yugoslav-American trade by $1 billion a year, which means that it would be doubled. Of course, one should act first and talk afterwards, (?since) the aggravated conditions of economic operations in our country (?may make) the prospects of such large exports to the United States difficult. Good will and the framework exist, however.

Then there is the question of the financial package to Yugoslavia for this year. On the American side it was said more clearly than last year that there will be no problem in renewing the loans after our government's agreement with the IMF. Last year there was much bargaining about the technical details, and there was also hesitation by commercial banks. President Reagan's statement that the efforts of the Yugoslav Government in stabilizing the economy should be helped has reverberated here as a kind of guarantee to the American banks, which in the past 2 years have been more and more reluctant to advance money to the indebted developing world.

On the global political plane, Ronald Reagan, George Bush, Mika Spiljak, Lazar Mojsov, and other participants in the talks have agreed in principle that an absence of dialogue between East and West threatens world peace. Naturally, the Americans consider that the ball is in the Soviet court, that Moscow should show a sign of good will, while the Yugoslavs have a balanced view on this problem and believe that both superpowers should gradually, if not in another way then by small steps, build confidence so as to achieve great results and a renewal of detente.

However, the commentary of an official of the State Department that for the United States it is extremely important to hear the position of a competent European and nonaligned country about East-West relations shows that Washington takes the Yugoslav view seriously.

Since, by the logic of things, a Soviet-Yugoslav contact on high level can be expected soon, the views of our diplomacy and leadership have weight on the international plane.

[Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 1800 GMT on 3 February adds the following from Gordan Milic, Belgrade radio permanent correspondent in the United States: "As regards bilateral cooperation, several points have been made. Considering that Yugoslavia has a trade deficit of $300 million with the United States [words indistinct] protected by high customs duties, it was agreed upon in the talks in the Commerce-Department with Malcolm Baldrige, and with Bill Brock, President Reagan's special envoy, that the Yugoslav deficit will not be reduced through reducing trade, but on the contrary, (?it will be endeavored to) increase the selection of goods. In this sense (?it is believed that) a guidelines agreement could be signed which would make possible sales of many more Yugoslav goods on the American market. It is, of course, a question of how the things that have been put down on paper will be implemented, for the Yugoslav side [words indistinct] although the Americans believe that Mexico and Yugoslavia are the two countries that have done the most in their stabilization programs and in restructuring their economies. We know best how we are doing. It will now be a question of business negotiations (?which) begin in Yugoslavia next week, and we will see how it will go with all these financial packages and arrangements. These, of course, provide an opportunity to breath more easily, so that Yugoslavia may import its production materials, and so forth. Afterward one can strive for more exports to the United States [words indistinct]."]

N.Y. TIMES Article Criticized

AU031655 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Apart from objective articles, a part of the world press endeavors to present the trip of Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, to the United States in a distorted light. Thus, a commentary in THE NEW YORK TIMES yesterday contrasts with the spirit and the atmosphere created during Mika Spiljak's stay in Washington. THE NEW YORK TIMES says that economic aid to Yugoslavia should be made conditional upon greater freedoms, elections by secret ballot, and similar ideas of the well-known arsenal of those who have never liked Yugoslavia the way it is.

MILITARY COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH EGYPT SIGNED

LD041230 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1152 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 4 Feb (TANJUG) -- Admiral of the Fleet Branko Mamula, federal secretary for national defense, and Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian minister of defense, signed a protocol in Cairo today on interarmy cooperation between the two friendly and nonaligned countries. This ended a 5-day official and friendly visit by a delegation of the Yugoslav People's Army to the Armed Forces of Egypt, which, it is assessed in Cairo, passed in a working atmosphere.

The delegation of the Yugoslav People's Army, which was led by Admiral of the Fleet Branko Mamula, left Cairo today on an official visit to the Kingdom of Jordan.

The guests from Yugoslavia were seen off at Cairo airport by Egyptian Defense Minister Abu Ghazalah, and other top figures of the Egyptian Army.

[Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1100 GMT on 4 February reports: "Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah extended an invitation to the Yugoslav war industries to participate in the Cairo military fair from 10 to 14 November.]

["Adm Branko described his talks with the Egyptian side as extremely frank. He added: We had the opportunity to be briefed on the current situation in the world. He said his talks in Cairo were extremely fruitful and will further promote relations between the Yugoslav and Egyptian Armed Forces. The Yugoslav official expressed the hope that military delegations from the two countries will exchange visits for the sake of enhancing joint cooperation. He asserted that he will do his best to overcome all obstacles facing such cooperation."]

MAMULA BEGINS OFFICIAL VISIT TO JORDAN

For Jordanian reportage on National Defense Secretary Branko Mamula's current visit to Jordan, including a report on his 5 January meeting with Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, see the Jordan section of the 6 January Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

REPORTAGE ON CULAFIC VISIT TO AFRICAN STATES

Departs on African Tour

LD022222 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1632 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Belgrade, Feb. 2 (TANJUG) -- Member of the Presidency of the Central Committee (CC) of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) Dobroslav Culafic today, Thursday, left on friendly visits to the People's Republic of Angola, Zimbabwe, and Somalia, where he was invited by the MPLA Party of Labour of Angola, the ZANU [Zimbabwe African National Union] of Zimbabwe, and the SRSP [Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party] of Somali. On his African tour, Culafic is accompanied by assistant executive secretary of the Presidency of the LCY CC Miroslav Milosevic.

Joint Statement With Angola

LD041536 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1336 GMT 4 Feb 84

[Text] Luanda, Feb. 4 (TANJUG) -- Yugoslav Communists most sharply censure South Africa's aggression against Angola and the Pretoria regime's attempt at destabilizing the "frontline countries."

This was said, among other things, in a joint statement issued after the talks between the delegation of the L.C.Y., headed by member of the Presidency of the L.C.Y. Central Committee Dobroslav Culafic, and the party delegation of the Angolan MPL Party of Labour, headed by first secretary of the party's Central Committee for Government and Legal Matters, Henriques dos Santos. The talks were held here last night, Friday. The two sides pointed out the necessity of enforcing the U.N. Security Council decisions on Namibia, as they rejected the Pretoria regime's attempts at making Namibia's independence conditional on the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola. Yugoslavia and Angola expressed their full support to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the African National Congress (ANC), and the Southwest African People's Organization (SWAPO), which are fighting for the respective liberation of Palestine, South Africa, and Namibia. The Angolan side thanked Yugoslavia for its solidarity with the people of Angola in its just struggle for the preservation of sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country jeopardized by constant attacks by South Africa's racist regime.

Today, Saturday, the Yugoslav delegation is to attend the solemn observance of the 23rd anniversary of the Angolan people's armed struggle against the Portuguese colonizers. In 1975, after 14 years of its armed struggle, Angola proclaimed independence and decided in favour of the socialist path of development.

Meets With SWAPO Leader

LD051829 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1633 GMT 5 Feb 84

["Pool" item]

[Text] Luanda, Feb 5 (TANJUG) -- We highly appreciate Yugoslavia's political, moral, and material support to the struggle of the Namibian people for the country's liberation from the South African invader.

Leader of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) Sam Nujoma stated the above in a talk with League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) Presidency member Dobroslav Culafic who heads an LCY delegation on a working and friendly visit to Angola. Nujoma said that the regime in Pretoria recently agreed to direct talks with SWAPO only in order to put off the offensive of Namibia patriots; intensified each year with the start of the rainy season.

The SWAPO leader confirmed the readiness of his liberation organization to negotiate a ceasefire in Namibia with the regime in Pretoria but reiterated that SWAPO combatants would continue armed operations against the South African occupying forces in Namibia until Pretoria signs a ceasefire and begins unconditionally to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions on Namibia.

The LCY delegation reasserted Yugoslavia's support to the just liberation struggle of the Namibian people and to SWAPO as its sole legitimate representative. Concrete forms of Yugoslavia's humanitarian aid to SWAPO and Namibian refugees were also discussed.

VLAJKOVIC MEETS WITH L.A. LEADERS IN CARACAS

LD032106 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1319 GMT 3 Feb 84

["Pool" item]

[Text] Caracas, February 3 (TANJUG) -- Yugoslav Presidency member Radovan Vlajkovic, who attended the ceremonies marking the inauguration of Venezuela's new president Jaime Lusinchi here last night (Thursday), met with a number of eminent Latin American statesmen.

The crisis in Central America was the main theme of the talks between Vlajkovic and Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella, during which they both pointed to the importance of the efforts of the Contadora Group countries in seeking a peaceful solution of the crisis in the region. President de la Espriella emphasized the closeness and friendship between the two countries and invited Vlajkovic to visit Panama.

Bilateral relations and international topics were discussed during a meeting between Vlajkovic and coordinator of the Sandinista Junta of Nicaragua Daniel Ortega.

First press comments here point to the readiness of Venezuela's new president to -- as he put in the inauguration address -- apply "austerity measures so that the debts may be paid back down to the last cent," but also to implement reforms "which would enable a more equitable re-distribution, with the aim of affirming work in our society." President Lusinchi emphasized that "the establishment of peace in Central America without foreign intervention is the paramount goal" of his foreign policy.

Returns From Venezuela

AU051854 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Excerpt of statement by Radovan Vlajkovic, member of the SFRY Presidency, on his return from a visit to Venezuela at Belgrade's Surcin Airport on 5 February -- recorded]

[Text] The talks we held boiled down precisely to our noting that our present relations are traditionally friendly and that we are interested in further promoting them. This is so on the bilateral level, and we also noted the great need for as great an involvement as possible in international issues, in international organizations.

We also had meetings with other statesmen, particularly those from Central America. The situation as it is now in general is being decided particularly on that continent. (?The countries of the area) are rather concerned. Nonetheless, there is some optimism and these countries also express some optimism.

ITALY'S ANDREOTTI TO PAY OFFICIAL VISIT 5-8 FEB

LD032146 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1727 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Belgrade, 3 Feb (TANJUG) -- At the invitation of Lazar Mojsov, federal secretary for foreign affairs, Giulio Andreotti, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Italy, will make an official friendly visit to Yugoslavia from 5 to 8 February this year.

This visit, which continues the political dialogue and very good good-neighborly relations and developed cooperation between the SFRY and the Republic of Italy, represents a favorable opportunity for the two ministers to exchange opinions about further promotion of bilateral relations and the expansion of the already well-developed cooperation, as well as to discuss topical issues relating to the international situation.

It is expected that Minister Giulio Andreotti will be received by Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, and by Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council.

During his stay in Yugoslavia the Italian minister of foreign affairs will visit the Socialist Republic of Bosnia and Hercegovina, where he will have talks with the politicians of this Socialist Republic and attend the festive opening of the 14th winter Olympic games in Sarajevo.

Previews Visit

LD051847 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1615 GMT 5 Feb 84

[Text] Rome, February 5 (TANJUG) -- Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti has stated that, on the whole, the prospects of East-West relations give no cause for pessimism.

Andreotti expressed this view in an interview with the Yugoslav correspondents in Rome prior to his departure tomorrow (Monday) on a two-day visit to Yugoslavia. He added, however, that it would be extremely simplified to draw from it a too optimistic and rash conclusion.

While positively assessing the opening of the Stockholm conference, Andreotti pointed out that he was seriously concerned about not only the crisis of detente, but also mistrust between the superpowers which reject the method of negotiation. Resumption of negotiations is in the interest of all, he said.

In the context of the Middle East crisis, the Italian foreign minister recalled 'Arafat's position that the Palestinian demands should be brought about by political means.

Andreotti assessed Italian-Yugoslav bilateral relations very positively. What has contributed to this, he said, are the frankness and mutual confidence, as well as frequent contacts at various levels between the two sides.

The Italian foreign minister also said that the present difficult world economic situation has not restricted, but, on the contrary, has encouraged Italian-Yugoslav cooperation, especially in the field of finances. He laid special emphasis on contacts between the border populations in the two countries as an important factor of mutual understanding and friendship.

Speaking of the position of the Slovene minority in Italy, Andreotti stressed that national minorities are no longer a cause of tension, as they used to be in the past, but an element conducive to the advancement of relations. In this context he said that a bill was being drafted in Italy which, when enacted, would give comprehensive protection to the Slovene national minority.

PLANINC RECEIVES EUROPEAN BANK PRESIDENT

LD032129 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1637 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Belgrade, February 3 (TANJUG) -- Yugoslav Premier Milka Planinc and President of the European Investment Bank Yves le Portza stressed, during their talks here today (Friday), the two sides' interest in further expansion of financial cooperation between Yugoslavia and the bank.

Planinc and Portza expressed satisfaction at the level achieved in developing financial cooperation between Yugoslavia and the European Investment Bank.

Portza underlined the bank's readiness to contribute to the further promotion of investment in Yugoslavia.

Premier Planinc pointed out the need for the European Investment Bank, apart from financing infrastructural projects, to assist [words indistinct] financing those projects which would strengthen Yugoslavia's export potentials. This would simultaneously help expand the volume of Yugoslavia's trade with the EEC countries.

OUTGOING ENVOY BIDS FAREWELL TO MITTERRAND

LD310819 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1709 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Paris, 30 Jan (TANJUG) -- Francois Mitterrand, the president of the French Republic, this morning received a farewell visit from the outgoing SFRY ambassador in Paris, Dusko Popovski. The French president stressed that he will personally involve himself so that some difficulties can be eliminated and solutions devised whereby some specific projects discussed by the two delegations in Belgrade [during Mitterrand's visit to Belgrade] can be carried out.

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL VIEWS FOREIGN DEBTS

LD032217 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1442 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Belgrade, 3 Feb (TANJUG) -- The Federal Executive Council has given the go-ahead to the economic rules to be applied this year in credit relations with foreign countries. Unified criteria on contracting debts and granting credits abroad have been ratified by the Yugoslav interest community for economic relations with foreign countries, in cooperation with the republican and provincial communities.

Priority in contracting debts this year is given to those organizations of associated labor whose development makes a contribution to achieving the goals and plan proportions laid down in the social plans and in the country's balance of payments for this year. This relates primarily to increasing exports, stabilizing the domestic market and facilitating the accelerated development of the economically underdeveloped republics and the province of Kosovo.

Credit relations with foreign countries are so oriented as to serve to achieve greater total foreign currency inflow, guarantee the necessary liquidity in international payments and achieve Yugoslavia's payment and currency balance. The extent of indebtedness abroad and of credits granted to foreign countries is fixed for each year by the Yugoslav payment and currency balance.

The unified criteria relate to all basic and other organizations of associated labor, self-managing interest communities, and banks authorized to conduct business with foreign countries.

Organizations and banks may contract debts abroad and grant credits to foreign partners only on the basis of the unified criteria and up to a specific level fixed by the credit guarantee potential of the banks empowered to do business with foreign countries.

Priority in indebtedness this year is given to imports of raw materials, reproduction materials, and spare parts, on the condition that this serves to benefit goods manufacture and offering of services for export to the convertible currency area, rational substitution of imports and the needs may be contracted only by those organizations and banks that have settled due obligations to foreign countries, and by those which are able to repay new foreign credits.

Work organizations and banks will be able to import equipment on credit, too, if this serves to complete the construction of previously started projects, the manufactures of which help to increase exports to the convertible currency area or to reduce imports. There is also provision for imports of equipment to replace that destroyed by earthquake, fire, flood, and in the event of ship or air crash. The criteria provide for the possibility of importing equipment pending call-up for the needs of accelerated development of the economically underdeveloped republics and the province of Kosovo. Imports of equipment for new factories will be possible if its manufacturers are predominantly intended for export to countries with convertible currency.

According to the new "rules," work organizations and banks may import ships and aircraft on mortgage credit under the condition that their utilization will yield such a foreign currency "harvest" that it will suffice to pay off the foreign credit.

In regard to the policy of approving the granting of credits to foreign countries, the criteria proceed from a number of basic standpoints. Namely, such credits should help to promote foreign trade exchange and the higher forms of economic cooperation, alongside efforts to increase imports to the convertible currency market.

Granting of credits should strengthen the competitiveness of Yugoslavia's economy abroad. Granting of credits should also increase exports of commodities and services, thereby also increasing transfer of technology and knowledge, and should improve conditions for selling home-manufactured equipment and ships, and for executive investment projects abroad.

LESKOVAC OFFICIALS RECEIVE PARTY PUNISHMENT

AU031451 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 2 Feb 84 p 5

[V.V. report]

[Excerpts] Leskovac, 1 Feb -- At the session last night, which lasted several hours, members of the LC Communal Committee of Leskovac, following a frank and extensive discussion, unanimously adopted the report of their working group examining the ideopolitical responsibility of the dismissed communal officials. Among other things, it was noted that objective responsibility of former officials of the Leskovac Commune for the complex and rather difficult political and economic situation which exists in this commune and about which our newspaper extensively reported on several occasions.

Having established the level of party responsibility, the Communal Committee pronounced the ideolpolitical measures of last warning of Kreta Stojanovic, former president of the presidium of the communal party organization; Miroslav Zdravkovic, former president of the Communal Assembly; and Vukosava Vuckovic, former president of the SAWP Communal Conference; while Mirko Stankovic, former vice president of the Communal Assembly, was given a warning as ideopolitical measure. It was decided that, in addition to the ideopolitical measures, all the aforementioned should be dismissed from all posts in the communal committee and the LC Intercommunal Conference and their organs and bodies.

The communal commiteee dismissed Vinko Petrusic, Radmila Mihailovic, and Randjel Petkovic as members of the presidium, while Miodrag Stojanovic was dismissed for statutory reasons (he is president of the Trade Union Council of Leskovac Commune.) The decision to relieve Savo Dimtrijevic of his post as executive secretary of the LC Communal Committee Presidium of Leskovac was also adopted.

DJURANOVIC NOMINATED FOR SFRY PRESIDENCY

LD032059 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1316 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Titograd, February 3 (TANJUG) -- Veselin Djuranovic (59) was put forward for election to the Presidency of Yugoslavia by the Republic of Montenegro today (Friday).

Djuranovic, currently a member of the Presidency of Montenegro, was nominated by the Presidency of the Republican Socialist Alliance. The final decision on this proposal will be taken by the Assembly of Montenegro.

The mandate of the current Presidency of Yugoslavia expires this year. The new Presidency will be proclaimed on May 15 by the Federal Assembly after considering the nominations by the six republics and the two provinces. The ninth member of the Presidency of Yugoslavia is the president of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee Presidency by virtue of his office.